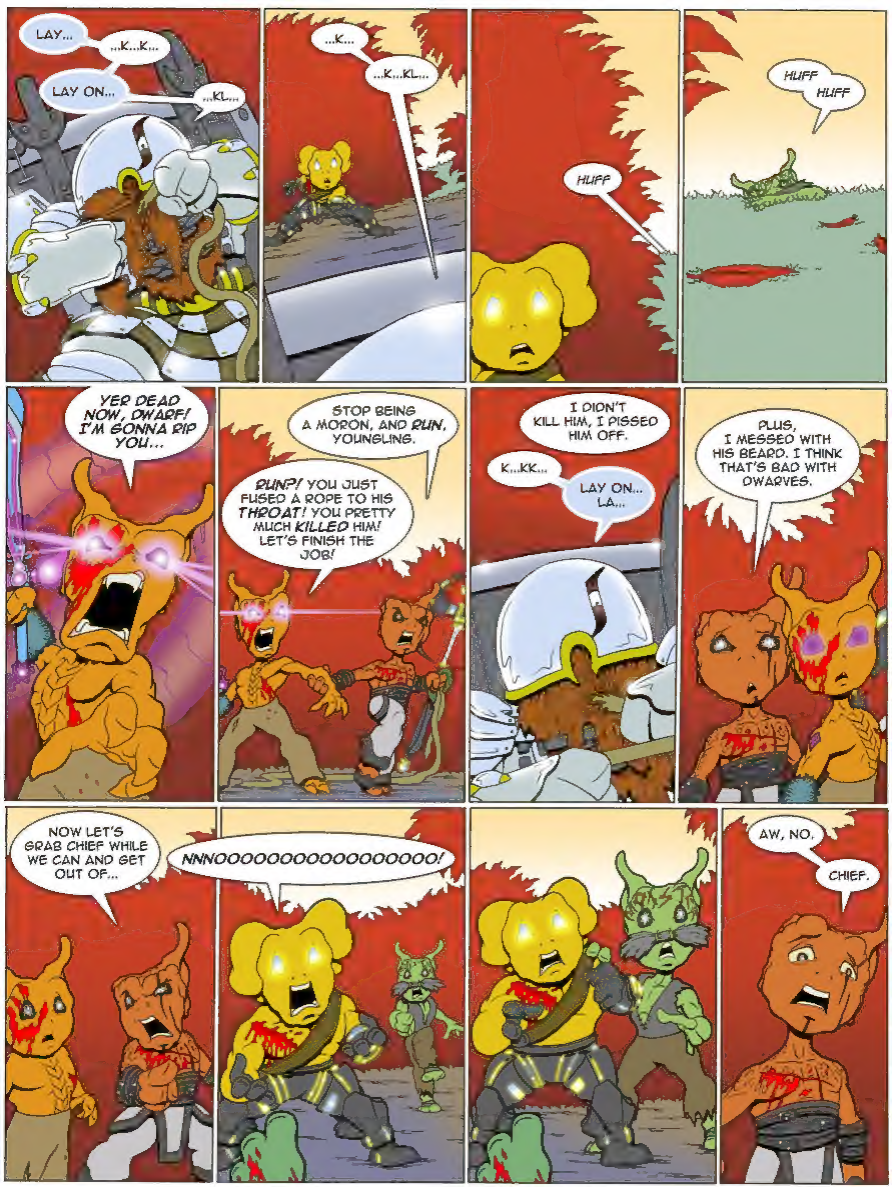
A DEMON?
RAAAAA!
HOLY SWORD.
CLANG CLANG CLANG CLANG
CLANG CLANG CLANG CLANG
COMPLAINS IS GOING TO GET KILLED! WE HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET PAST KORE'S ARMOUR!

CLANG
I'M USELESS IN THIS FIGHT! THE AXE JUST GOES RIGHT THROUGH HIM!
WELL WE HAVE TO DO SOMETH...
WAIT.
THROW THE AXE AT HIM!
WHAT?! BUT...
DO IT!
I CAN'T ATTACK SOMEONE FROM BEHIND!
YOU HAVE TO!
I...
EARS! NOW!

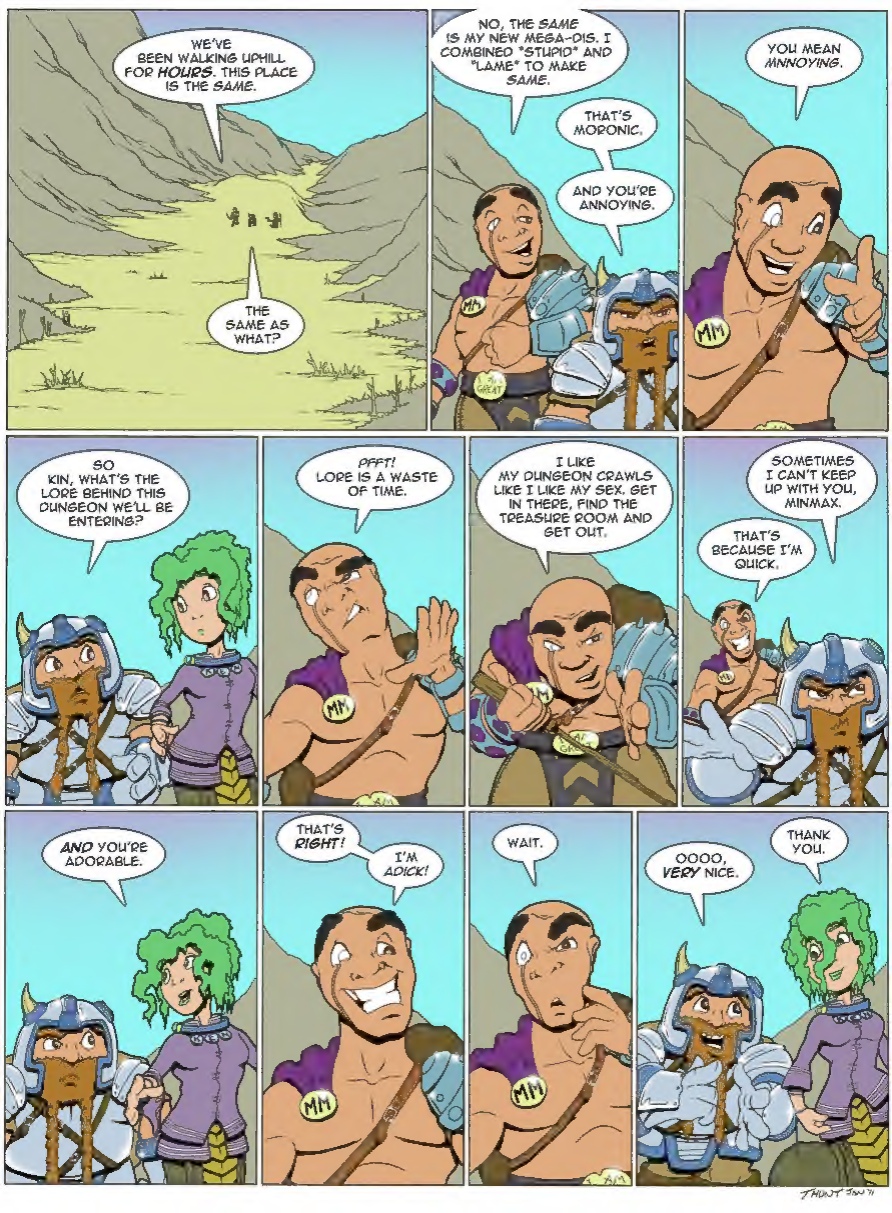
THIP
GLLK
FLAP
K...
THUP
K..K...
...K...kk...
SHCHINK

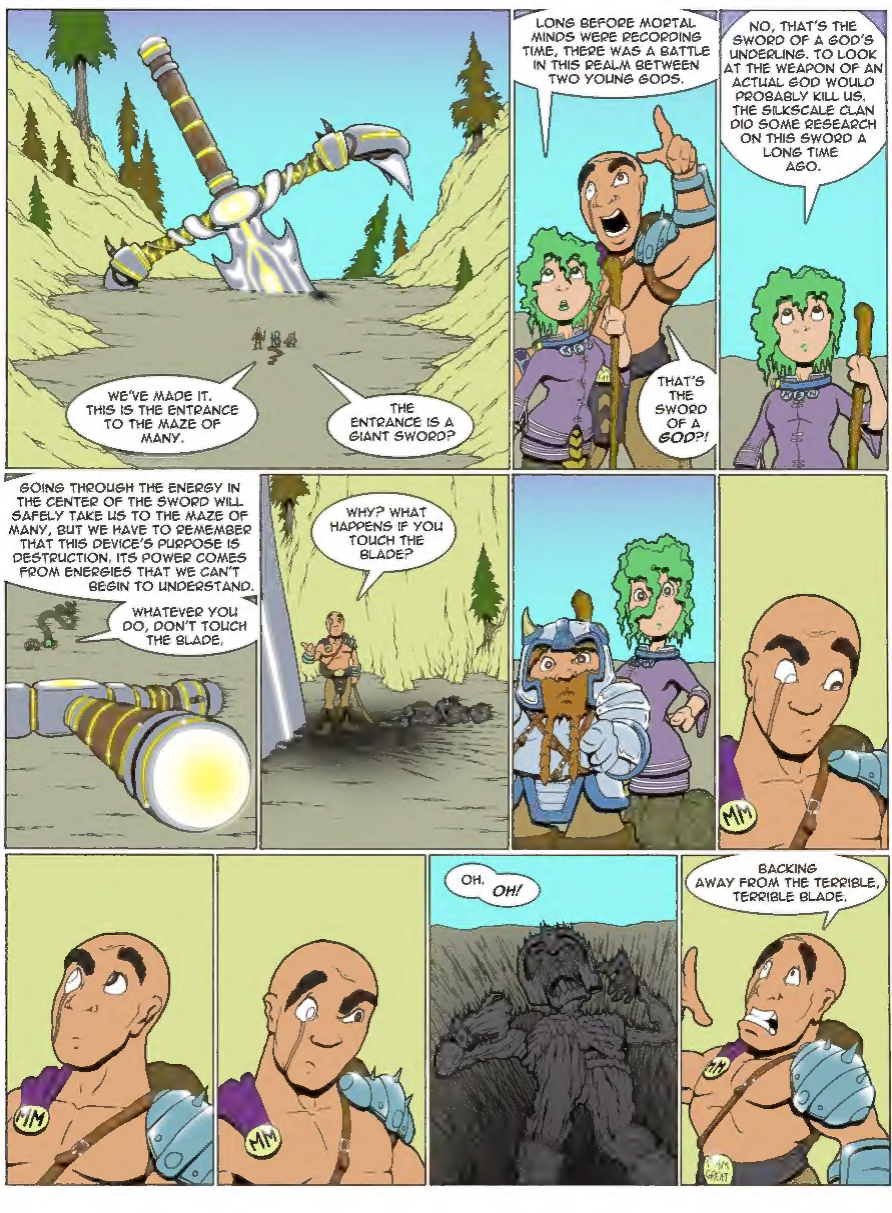

LAY...
...K...K...
LAY ON...
...KL...
...K...
...K...KL...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
YER DEAD NOW, DWARF! I'M GONNA RIP YOU...
STOP BEING A MORON, AND RUN, YOUNGLING.
RUN?! YOU JUST FUSED A ROPE TO HIS THROAT! YOU PRETTY MUCH KILLED HIM! LET'S FINISH THE JOB!
I DION'T KILL HIM, I PISSED HIM OFF.
K...KK...
LAY ON... LA...
PLUS, I MESSED WITH HIS BEARD. I THINK THAT'S BAD WITH DWARVES.
NOW LET'S GRAB CHIEF WHILE WE CAN AND GET OUT OF...
NNNOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!
AW, NO.
CHIEF.

L... LAY ON...
HA... KK...K...
HAA...
LET'S GO.
BUT CHIEF...
RUN NOW, CRY LATER.
K...
...KL...
KTHUNK KTHUNK KTHUNK
KTHUNK KTHUNK KTHUNK KTHUNK
COME ON!
K...KL...
...K...
...KK...K...
KL...K...
KLUNK
LAY ON...
HA...
HAN...

LAY...
...ON...
...
...HANDS.
SHLIK
SPLUT
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT!
KWAFOOOOM
HI NAMES. REMEMBER ME?

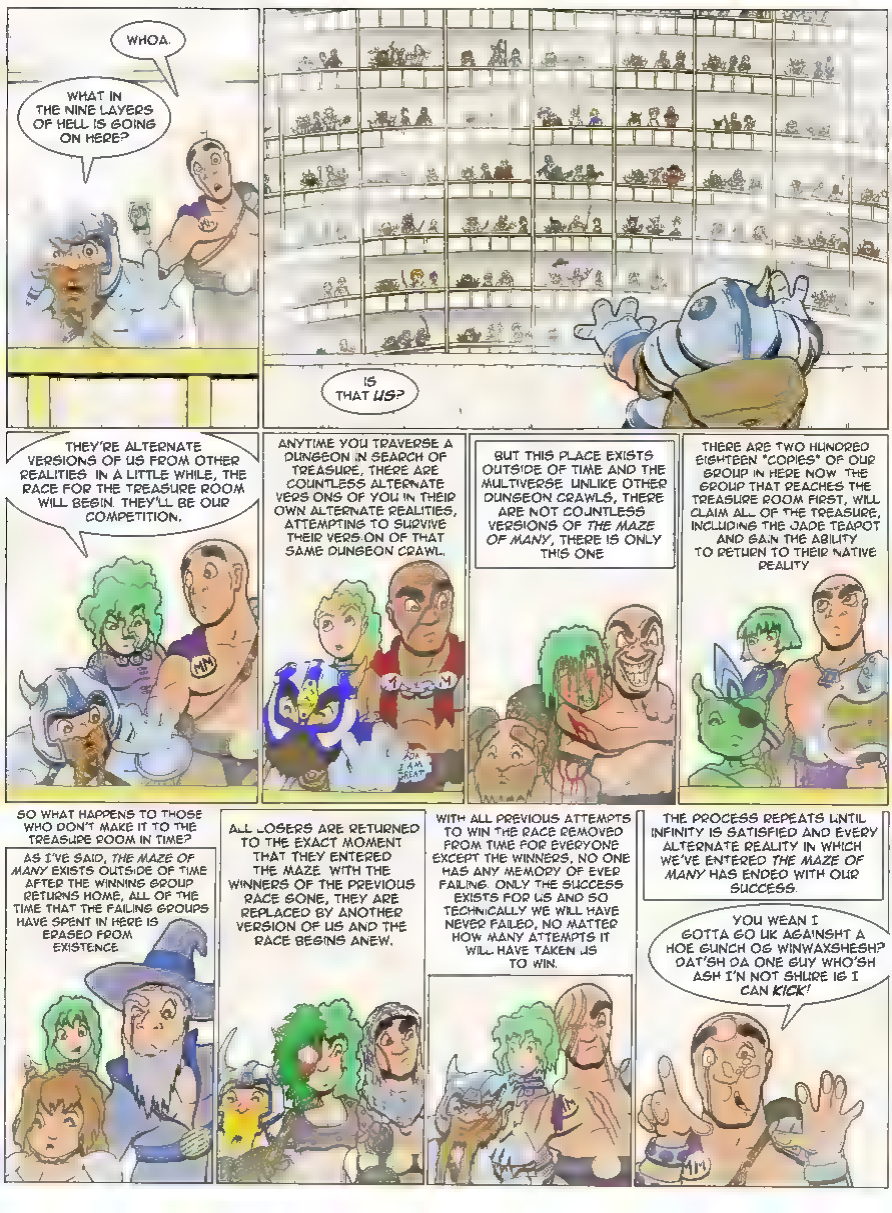
SERIOUSLY? A TREASURE PLANT?
IS HERBERT EVEN TRYING ANYMORE?
THEY WERE FIRST CREATED LONG AGO BY A WIZARD WHO HATED TRESPASSERS. NOW THEY GROW WILD IN SOME AREAS. THEY'RE ONLY A DANGER TO THE DUMBEST OF INDIVIDUALS.
MINMAX!
MM! MMMHMM!
MMM!
GRAB HIS LEGS!
MMM!
YOU OKAY?
I WILL BE.
AS SOON AS I GET MY TREASURE!
THWUMP
SPLOYAK


WE'VE BEEN WALKING UPHILL FOR HOURS. THIS PLACE IS THE SAME.
THE SAME AS WHAT?
NO, THE SAME IS MY NEW MESA-DIS. I COMBINED "STUPID" AND "LAME" TO MAKE SAME.
THAT'S MORONIC.
AND YOU'RE ANNOYING.
YOU MEAN MNNOYING.
SO KIN, WHAT'S THE LORE BEHIND THIS DUNGEON WE'LL BE ENTERING?
PFFT! LORE IS A WASTE OF TIME.
I LIKE MY DUNGEON CRAWLS LIKE I LIKE MY SEX. GET IN THERE, FIND THE TREASURE ROOM AND GET OUT.
SOMETIMES I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH YOU, MINMAX.
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M QUICK.
AND YOU'RE ADORABLE.
THAT'S RIGHT!
I'M ADICK!
WAIT.
OOOO, VERY NICE.
THANK YOU.

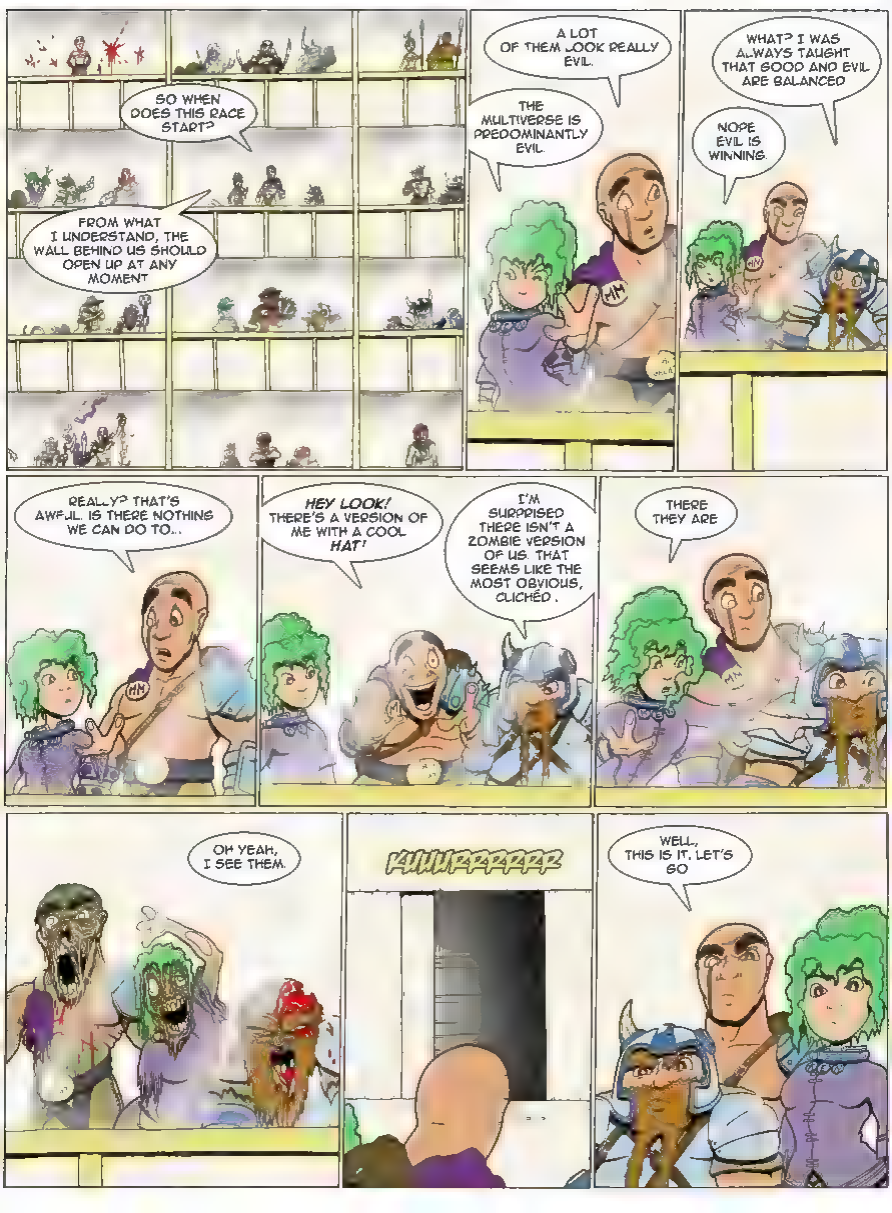

WE'VE MADE IT. THIS IS THE ENTRANCE TO THE MAZE OF MANY.
THE ENTRANCE IS A GIANT SWORD?
LONG BEFORE MORTAL MINDS WERE RECORDING TIME, THERE WAS A BATTLE IN THIS REALM BETWEEN TWO YOUNG GODS.
THAT'S THE SWORD OF A GOD?!
NO, THAT'S THE SWORD OF A GOD'S UNDERLING. TO LOOK AT THE WEAPON OF AN ACTUAL GOD WOULD PROBABLY KILL US. THE SILKSCALE CLAN DID SOME RESEARCH ON THIS SWORD A LONG TIME AGO.
GOING THROUGH THE ENERGY IN THE CENTER OF THE SWORD WILL SAFELY TAKE US TO THE MAZE OF MANY, BUT WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT THIS DEVICE'S PURPOSE IS DESTRUCTION. ITS POWER COMES FROM ENERGIES THAT WE CAN'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND.
WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T TOUCH THE BLADE.
WHY? WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU TOUCH THE BLADE?
MM
MM
MM
OH. OH!
BACKING AWAY FROM THE TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE BLADE.
MM
I AM GREAT

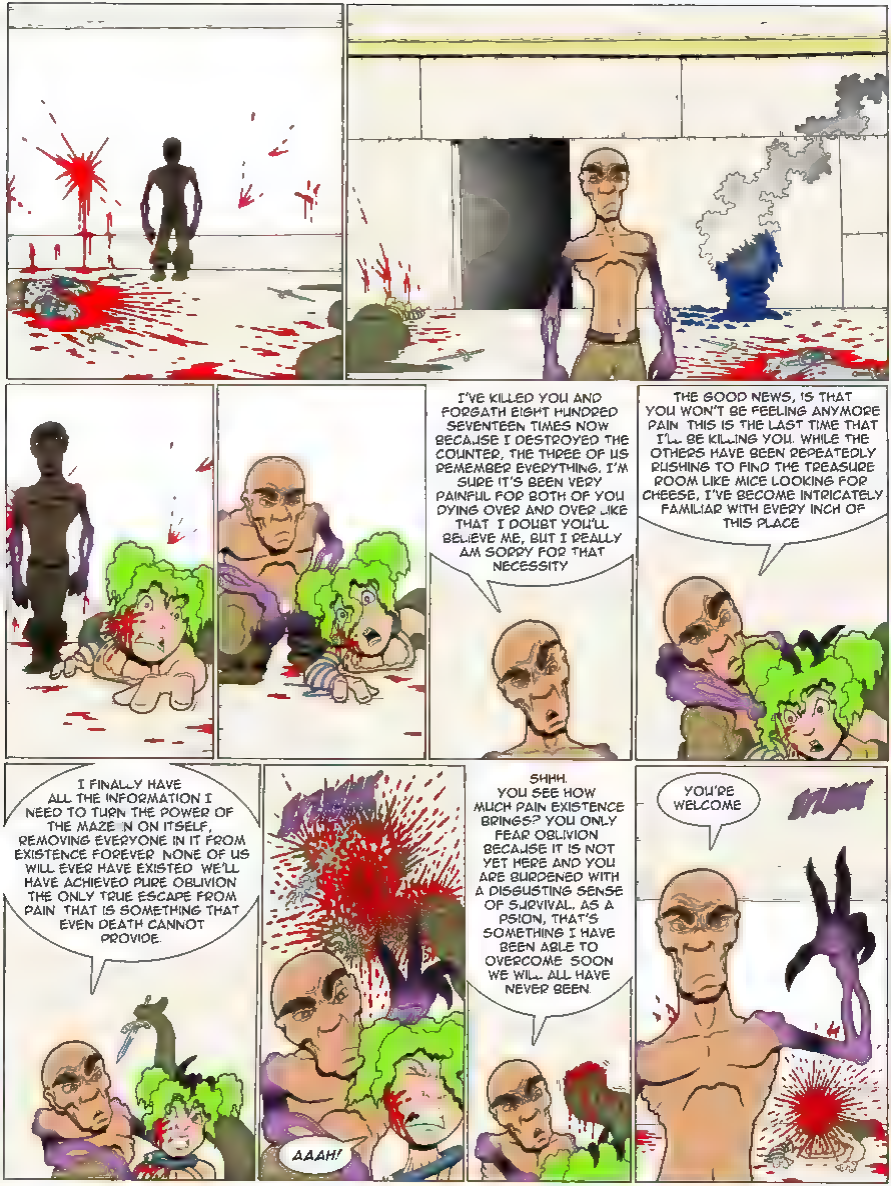
I GUARANTEE YOU, THAT IF WE WERE TO LEAVE HIM ALONE WITH THIS THING FOR TWO MINUTES, HE'D BE DEAD.
I THINK YOU GIVE HIM TOO LITTLE CREDIT. WE SHOULDN'T THINK LESS OF MINMAX DUE TO HIS LOWER INTELLIGENCE ANYMORE THAN WE SHOULD THINK LESS OF ME FOR MY LACK OF UPPER BODY STRENGTH. INTELLIGENCE IS JUST ANOTHER ATTRIBUTE.
AND LOOK. SEE? HE'S SEEN THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED TO HIM CONCERNING THE DANGER, REALISED WHAT HE SHOULON'T DO AND NOW HE'S CONTEMPLATING WHAT HE'S LEARNED.
IT MAY TAKE HIM LONGER TO REACH THE CONCLUSIONS THAT YOU AND I CAN COME TO WITH GREATER EASE, BUT IN HIS OWN WAY, HE'S TRYING AND THAT'S CONSTRUCTIVE.
MHMM.
SEE HOW HE'S CONCENTRATING SO INTENTLY ON THE BLADE? HIS MIND MAY NOT BE THE QUICKEST, BUT HE IS COMMITED TO THE TASK OF UNDERSTANDING THE CURRENT SITUATION. THERE ARE SCHOLARS WHO HAVE TROUBLE REACHING THAT LEVEL OF CONCENTRATION.
AH.
SO I DON'T THINK THAT WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED WITH HIS ABILITY TO LEARN ABOUT HIS ENVIRONMENT, BECAUSE AS LONG AS HIS INTELLECT IS PROPELLING HIM FORWARD LIKE IT IS NOW, THAT'S ALWAYS POSITIVE.
I SEE.
HEY MINMAX, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING RIGHT NOW?
I'M TOTALLY GONNA PEE ON THIS THING.
MINMAX, NO!
JENNY FEB'11

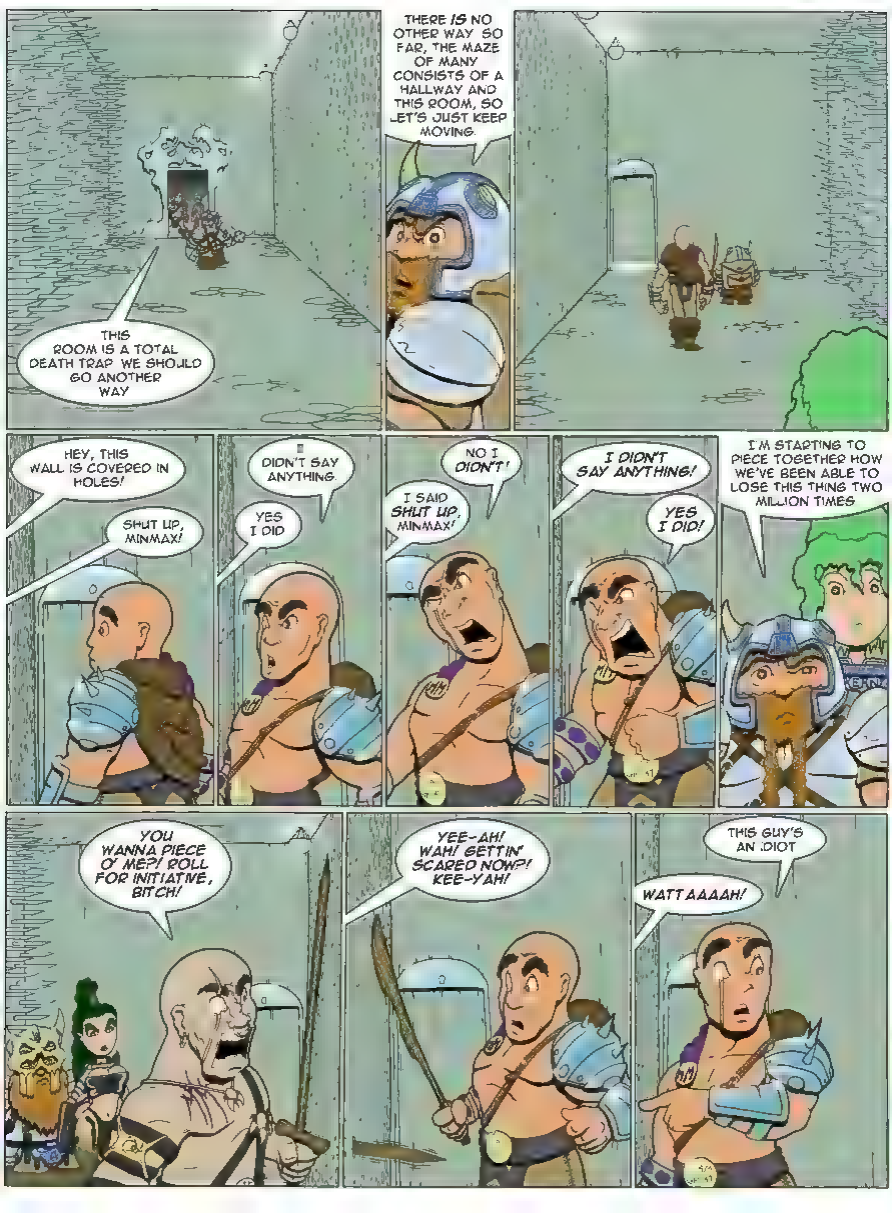
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? PEEING ISN'T TOUCHING.
A STATISTICALLY RELEVANT AMOUNT OF DESTRUCTIVE MAGICS SHARE SOME QUALITIES WITH THE KIND OF ENERGY FOUND IN LIGHTNING! IF YOUR STREAM OF URINE IS CONSTANT ENOUGH, THE WATER CONTENT IN THAT URINE COULD ACT AS A CONDUCTOR AND
WELL.
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY, IS THAT THE MAGICS WITHIN THE SWORD COULD TRANSFER TO YOU USING PROPERTIES FOUND...
SIGH
PENIS GO BOOM
WHAT?! SERIOUSLY?! WHY DION'T ANYONE TELL ME?! I COULD'VE BEEN KILLED!
SO KIN, YOU'RE SURE THAT WALKING THROUGH THIS LIGHT IS SAFE?
YES
OF COURSE THERE ARE ALWAYS LONG TERM RISKS SUCH AS FATAL MUTATIONS CAUSED BY EXPOSURE TO RADIATION THAT COULD BE INHERENT IN THE UNSTUDIED ASPECT OF THIS KIND OF MAGIC
WHAT?!
JUST GO MOP FACE
MMFFPH!
C'MON KIN. LET'S GO.
I DON'T
I CAN'T
OH, I FORGOT, NO TOUCHING. THE WHOLE TACTILE INTERJUNCTION THING S'COOL.

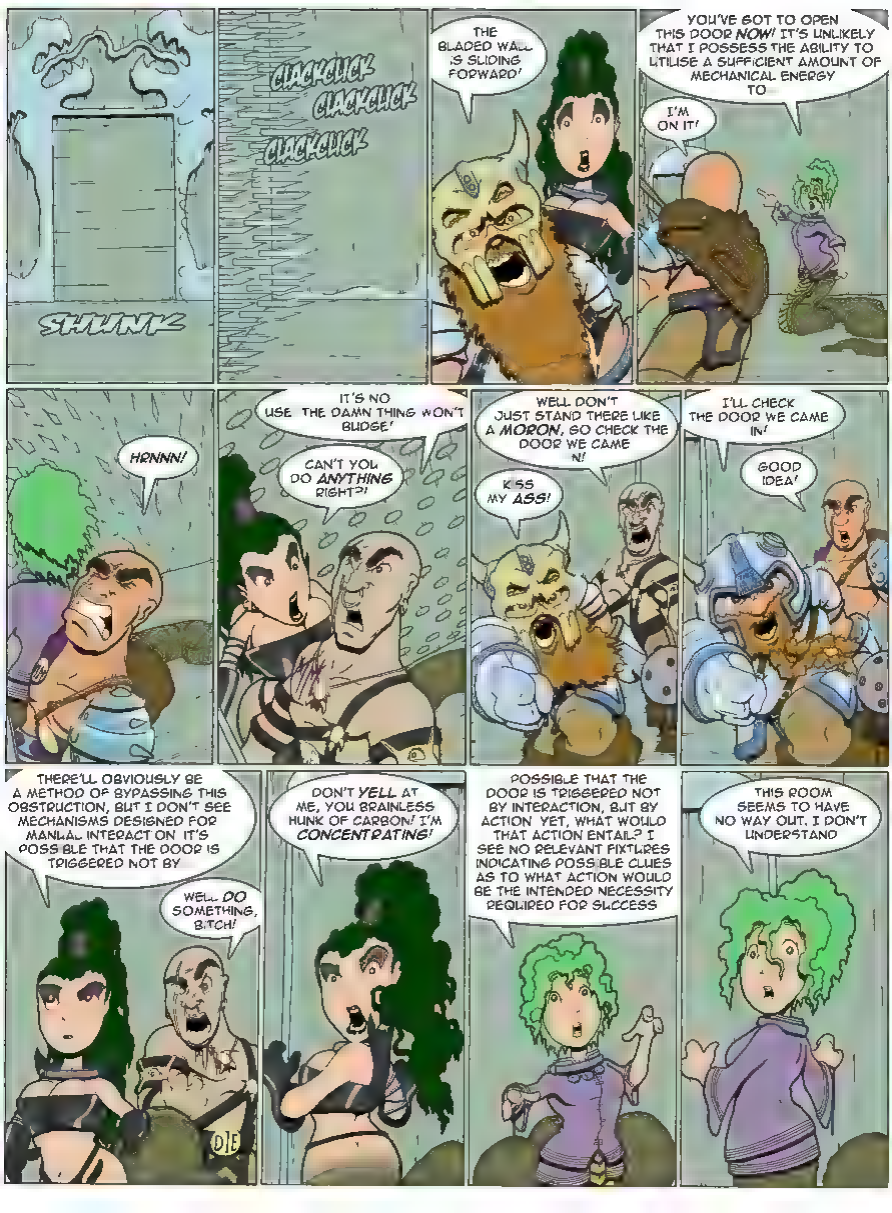

WHOA.
WHAT IN THE NINE LAYERS OF HELL IS GOING ON HERE?
IS THAT US?
THEY'RE ALTERNATE VERSIONS OF US FROM OTHER REALITIES. IN A LITTLE WHILE, THE RACE FOR THE TREASURE ROOM WILL BEGIN. THEY'LL BE OUR COMPETITION.
ANYTIME YOU TRAVERSE A DUNGEON IN SEARCH OF TREASURE, THERE ARE COUNTLESS ALTERNATE VERSIONS OF YOU IN THEIR OWN ALTERNATE REALITIES, ATTEMPTING TO SURVIVE THEIR VERSION OF THAT SAME DUNGEON CRAWL.
BUT THIS PLACE EXISTS OUTSIDE OF TIME AND THE MULTIVERSE. UNLIKE OTHER DUNGEON CRAWLS, THERE ARE NOT COUNTLESS VERSIONS OF THE MAZE OF MANY, THERE IS ONLY THIS ONE
THERE ARE TWO HUNDRED EIGHTEEN "COPIES" OF OUR GROUP IN HERE NOW. THE GROUP THAT REACHES THE TREASURE ROOM FIRST, WILL CLAIM ALL OF THE TREASURE, INCLUDING THE JADE TEAPOT AND GAIN THE ABILITY TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE REALITY
SO WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO DON'T MAKE IT TO THE TREASURE ROOM IN TIME?
AS I'VE SAID, THE MAZE OF MANY EXISTS OUTSIDE OF TIME. AFTER THE WINNING GROUP RETURNS HOME, ALL OF THE TIME THAT THE FAILING GROUPS HAVE SPENT IN HERE IS ERASED FROM EXISTENCE.
ALL LOSERS ARE RETURNED TO THE EXACT MOMENT THAT THEY ENTERED THE MAZE, WITH THE WINNERS OF THE PREVIOUS RACE GONE, THEY ARE REPLACED BY ANOTHER VERSION OF US AND THE RACE BEGINS ANEW.
WITH ALL PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO WIN THE RACE REMOVED FROM TIME FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT THE WINNERS, NO ONE HAS ANY MEMORY OF EVER FAILING. ONLY THE SUCCESS EXISTS FOR US AND SO TECHNICALLY WE WILL HAVE NEVER FAILED, NO MATTER HOW MANY ATTEMPTS IT WILL HAVE TAKEN US TO WIN.
THE PROCESS REPEATS UNTIL INFINITY IS SATISFIED AND EVERY ALTERNATE REALITY IN WHICH WE'VE ENTERED THE MAZE OF MANY HAS ENDED WITH OUR SUCCESS.
YOU WEAN I GOTTA GO UK AGAINSHT A HOE GUNCH OS WINWAXSHESH? DAT'SH DA ONE GUY WHO'SH ASH I'N NOT SHURE IS I CAN KICK!

WELL A... WE CAN DO IS OUR BEST WE'LL WORK AND FIGHT HARDER THAN THE OTHERS AND HOPEFULLY WE'LL ACTUALLY SUCCEED ON OUR FIRST ATTEMPT.
HEY, WHAT'S THIS THING?
1982771
THAT'S UH. WELL THAT'S OUR COUNTER IT KEEPS TRACK OF - WELL, THAT'S HOW MANY TIMES WE'VE FAILED SO FAR
WHAT?! ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT WE'RE SO SLOW, WE'VE BEEN BEATEN TO THE TREASURE ROOM ALMOST TWO MILLION TIMES?!
NOT NECESSARILY, IT'S PROBABLE THAT WE'VE BEEN KILLED IN BATTLE OR BY VARIOUS TRAPS AS WELL. SO SPEED MAY NOT BE OUR MOST PROMINENT INADEQUACY
BUT TWO MILLION TIMES?! THAT'S JUST EMBARRASSING! AND WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FEELING MORE HUMILIATED EACH TIME, I'VE PROBABLY GONE THROUGH THIS EXACT RANT HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TIMES AND I'LL PROBABLY SAY IT MILLIONS OF TIMES MORE! NOTHING WE'RE DOING AT THIS MOMENT HOLDS ANY SUBSTANCE BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO FAIL AGAIN! I COULD THROW MYSELF ON MINMAX'S SWORD! SHAVE MY BEARD! NOTHING MATTERS RIGHT NOW! NOTHING WILL EXIST SO THERE ARE NO REPERCUSSIONS OR CONSEQUENCES TO ANYTHING WE DO!
MMM!
MMMMMM!
MM!
BLECH! IT'S LIKE KISSING AN OLD TAVERN BROOM.
COFF COFF
WHY. WHAT.. WHY THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT?!
I DUNNO IT WAS FUNNY? YOU SAID THAT NOTHING WE DO REALLY EXISTS, RIGHT?
AFTER ALL THE TIMES YOU'VE PICKED ON ME BY JOKINGLY CLAIMING THAT I WAS GAY, YOU KISSED ME?! WELL, MINMAX THAT WAS THE GAYEST THING YOU'VE EVER.
OH RELAX, IT'S NOT GAY, YOU'RE PLAYED BY A GIRL.


SO WHEN DOES THIS RACE START?
FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, THE WALL BEHIND US SHOULD OPEN UP AT ANY MOMENT
A LOT OF THEM LOOK REALLY EVIL.
THE MULTIVERSE IS PREDOMINANTLY EVIL
WHAT? I WAS ALWAYS TAUGHT THAT GOOD AND EVIL ARE BALANCED
NOPE. EVIL IS WINNING.
REALLY? THAT'S AWFUL. IS THERE NOTHING WE CAN DO TO...
HEY LOOK! THERE'S A VERSION OF ME WITH A COOL HAT!
I'M SURPRISED THERE ISN'T A ZOMBIE VERSION OF US. THAT SEEMS LIKE THE MOST OBVIOUS, CLICHÉD.
THERE THEY ARE
OH YEAH, I SEE THEM.
AHHHHAAAAAAAAA
WELL, THIS IS IT. LET'S GO


I'VE KILLED YOU AND FORSAITH EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTEEN TIMES NOW BECAUSE I DESTROYED THE COUNTER, THE THREE OF US REMEMBER EVERYTHING. I'M SURE IT'S BEEN VERY PAINFUL FOR BOTH OF YOU DYING OVER AND OVER LIKE THAT I DOUBT YOU'LL BELIEVE ME, BUT I REALLY AM SORRY FOR THAT NECESSITY
THE GOOD NEWS, IS THAT YOU WON'T BE FEELING ANYMORE PAIN THIS IS THE LAST TIME THAT I'LL BE KILLING YOU. WHILE THE OTHERS HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY RUSHING TO FIND THE TREASURE ROOM LIKE MICE LOOKING FOR CHEESE, I'VE BECOME INTRICATELY FAMILIAR WITH EVERY INCH OF THIS PLACE
I FINALLY HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION I NEED TO TURN THE POWER OF THE MAZE IN ON ITSELF, REMOVING EVERYONE IN IT FROM EXISTENCE FOREVER NONE OF US WILL EVER HAVE EXISTED WE'LL HAVE ACHIEVED PURE OBLIVION THE ONLY TRUE ESCAPE FROM PAIN THAT IS SOMETHING THAT EVEN DEATH CANNOT PROVIDE.
AAAH!
SHHH. YOU SEE HOW MUCH PAIN EXISTENCE BRINGS? YOU ONLY FEAR OBLIVION BECAUSE IT IS NOT YET HERE AND YOU ARE BURDENED WITH A DISGUSTING SENSE OF SURVIVAL. AS A PSION, THAT'S SOMETHING I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OVERCOME SOON WE WILL ALL HAVE NEVER BEEN.
YOU'RE WELCOME
WHAM


THIS ROOM IS A TOTAL DEATH TRAP. WE SHOULD GO ANOTHER WAY
THERE IS NO OTHER WAY. SO FAR, THE MAZE OF MANY CONSISTS OF A HALLWAY AND THIS ROOM, SO LET'S JUST KEEP MOVING.
HEY, THIS WALL IS COVERED IN HOLES!
SHUT UP, MINMAX!
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING
YES I DID
NO I DIDN'T!
I SAID SHUT UP, MINMAX!
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING!
YES I DID!
I'M STARTING TO PIECE TOGETHER HOW WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO LOSE THIS THING TWO MILLION TIMES
YOU WANNA PIECE O' ME?! ROLL FOR INITIATIVE, BITCH!
YEE-AH! WAH! GETTIN' SCARED NOW?! KEE-YAH!
THIS GUY'S AN .IDIOT
WATT AAAAH!


SHUNK
CLACK-CLICK
CLACK-CLICK
CLACK-CLICK
THE BLADED WALL IS SLIDING FORWARD!
YOU'VE GOT TO OPEN THIS DOOR NOW! IT'S UNLIKELY THAT I POSSESS THE ABILITY TO UTILISE A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT OF MECHANICAL ENERGY TO...
I'M ON IT!
HRNNN!
IT'S NO USE. THE DAMN THING WON'T BUDGE!
CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING RIGHT?!
WELL DON'T JUST STAND THERE LIKE A MORON, GO CHECK THE DOOR WE CAME IN!
KISS MY ASS!
I'LL CHECK THE DOOR WE CAME IN!
GOOD IDEA!
THERE'LL OBVIOUSLY BE A METHOD OF BYPASSING THIS OBSTRUCTION, BUT I DON'T SEE MECHANISMS DESIGNED FOR MANUAL INTERACTION. IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE DOOR IS TRIGGERED NOT BY
WELL DO SOMETHING, BITCH!
DON'T YELL AT ME, YOU BRAINLESS HUNK OF CARBON! I'M CONCENTRATING!
POSSIBLE THAT THE DOOR IS TRIGGERED NOT BY INTERACTION, BUT BY ACTION. YET, WHAT WOULD THAT ACTION ENTAIL? I SEE NO RELEVANT FIXTURES INDICATING POSSIBLE CLUES AS TO WHAT ACTION WOULD BE THE INTENDED NECESSITY REQUIRED FOR SUCCESS
THIS ROOM SEEMS TO HAVE NO WAY OUT. I DON'T UNDERSTAND

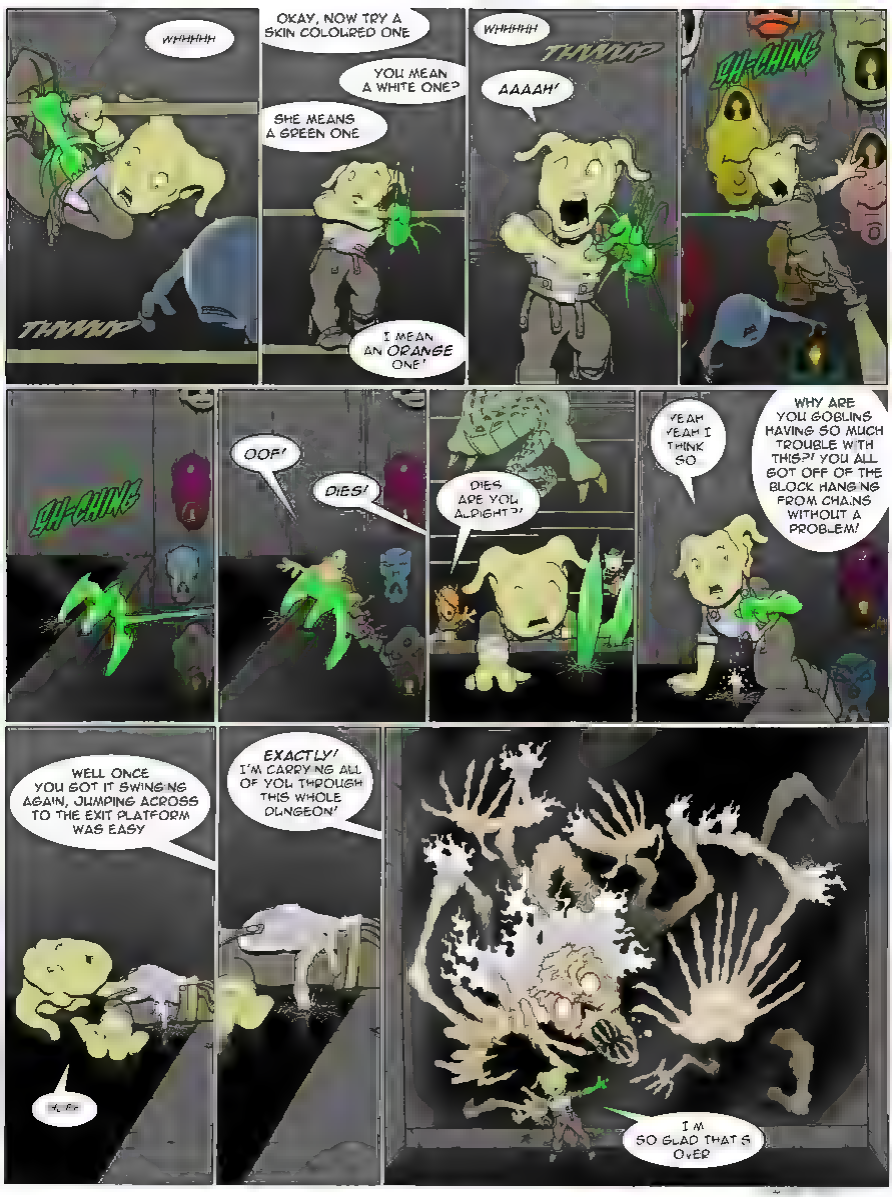
KAAAAAAK
WHAT?
HEY! THE DOOR OPENED A LITTLE!
MINMAX! THE DOOR OPENED A LITTLE!
"THE SAME" IS MY SAYING! I INVENTED IT!
NU-UH, I INVENTED IT, DORK-BUTT!
BUT WHY WOULD THE DOOR PARTLY OPEN? IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE
KAAAAAAK
...
CONFUSION THE DOOR IS OPENED BY A PROMINENT AMOUNT OF CONFUSION
KAAAAAAK
AND IT'S CLOSED BY AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF COMPREHENS ON
KAAAAAAK SHUNK
FORSATH!
DID YOU FIND ANYTHING, KIN?
CLACKCLICK CLACKCLICK
WHEN I SAY "START", I NEED YOU TO GO UPWARDS REO-WAYS! BUT ONLY WHEN I SAY THE WORD "START"! AND MAKE SURE THAT WHEN YOU BACK UP, YOU GO MORE THAN FIFTEEN, BUT LESS THAN FOUR! READY? GO!
WHAT?!
KAAAAAAK
THAT'S PERFECT, THANKS!

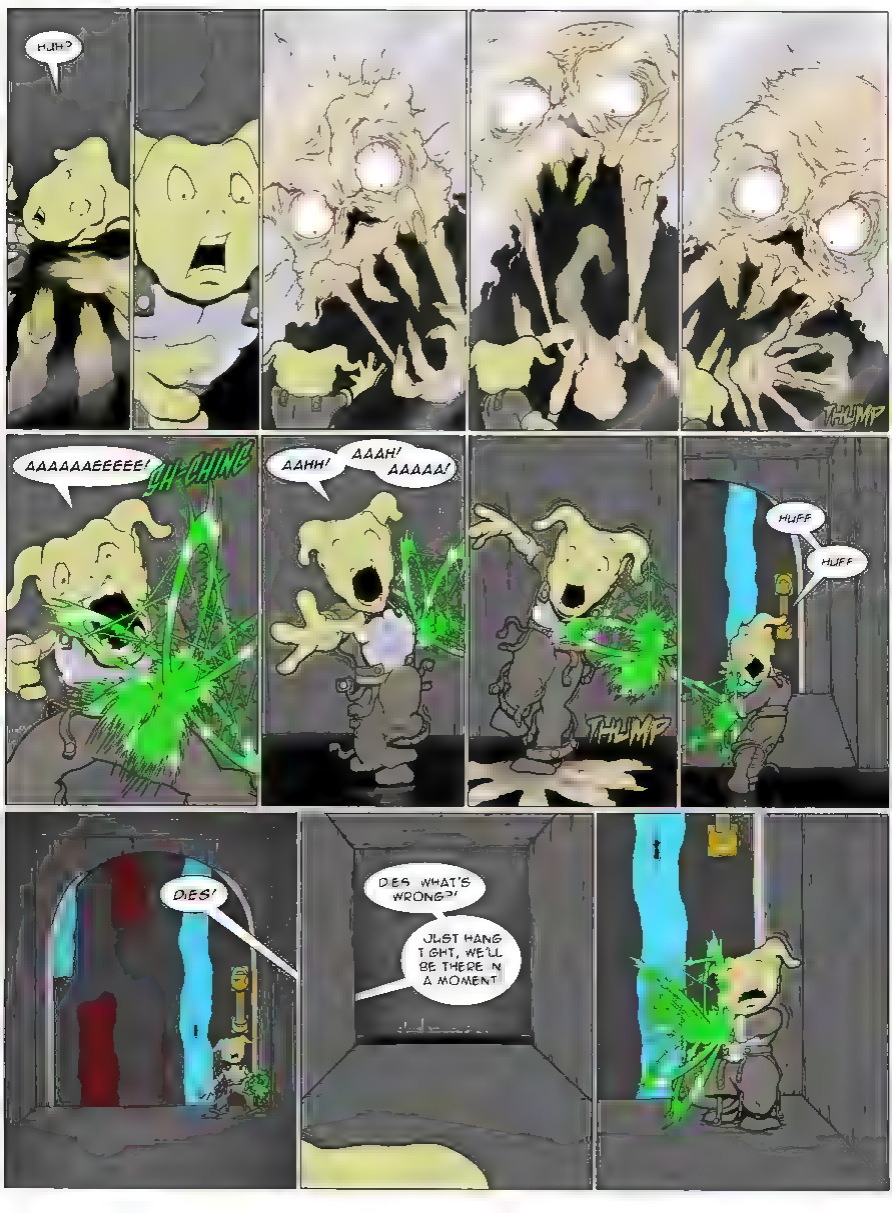
I JUST NEED IT TO OPEN A BIT MORE
FORSATH, I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT I NEED YOU TO FIND THE ONES COUNTER CLOCKWISE! NOW REPEAT BACK TO ME THE THIRD THING THAT WASN'T SAID!
OH, I SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING THE DOOR OPENS WHEN SOMEONE GETS CONFUSED
KRAKKAK SHUNK
NO!
MINMAX IS OUR LAST CHANCE
T'S OKAY CONFUSING H'M WILL BE A CAKEWALK
HEY, MINMAX!
WHAT?
COME HERE!
WHAT? DID YOU FIGURE OUT HOW TO OPEN THE DOOR?
QUICK! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF COMPLEX MATH?
IT'S STUPID EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MATH HAS NEVER DONE ANYTHING GOOD, EVER
THAT'S NOT GOING TO PERPETRATE SUCCESS
S'OKAY I GOT THIS
OKAY
MINMAX LOOK UP
NO NO, THE OTHER UP
SORRY
WE'RE GOING TO DIE BECAUSE HE'S TOO DUMB TO OUTSMART!

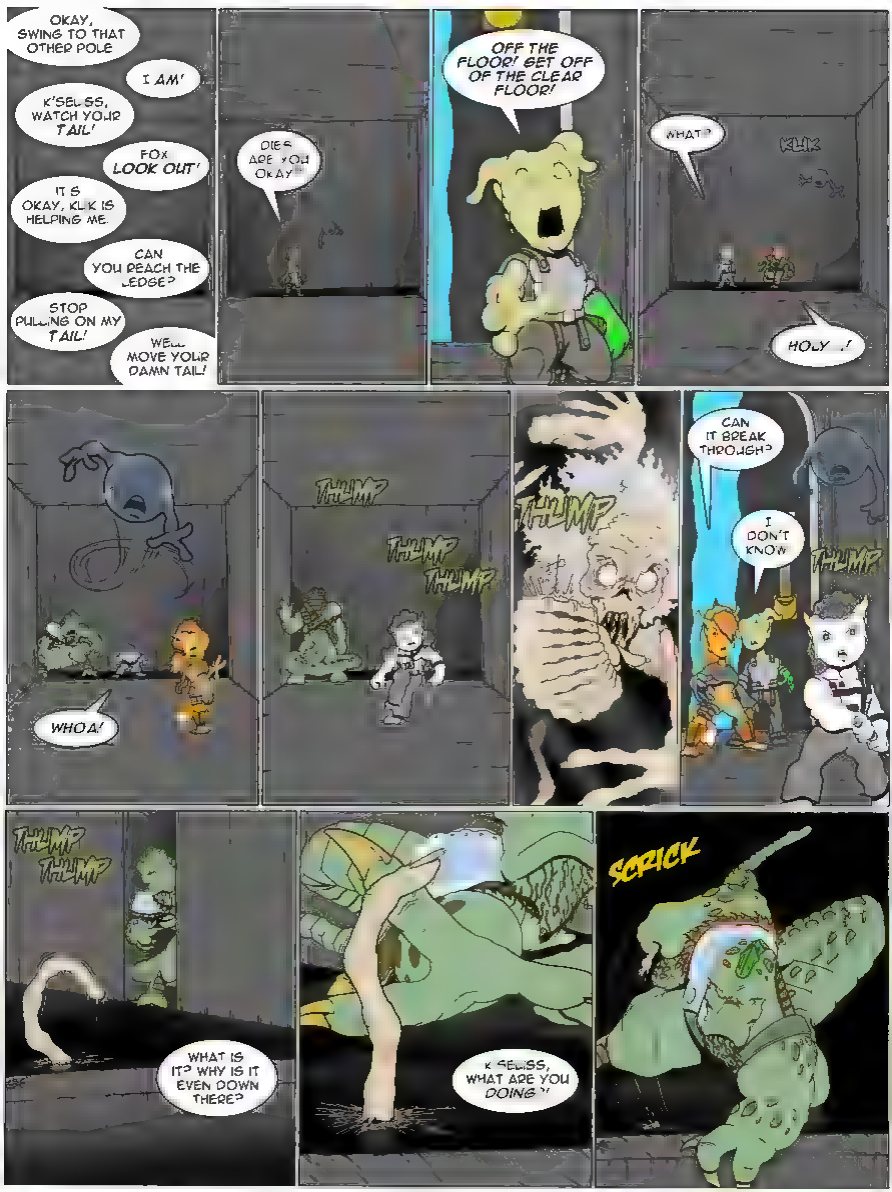
CLACKCLICK
CLACKCLICK
CLACKCLICK
THIS S GONNA HURT
CLACKCLICK
CLACKCLICK
CLACKCLICK
AAAAAAAA!
THE DOOR'S OPEN!
GO! GO! GO!
GO! GO! GO!
WHAT? THEY'VE GOTTEN THEIR DOOR OPEN? THEY'RE ESCAPING?! I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HOW DID THEY...
AAAAAAAA!

THE DOOR IS OPEN!
ME FIRST!
DIE
CONFUSION
THE DOOR IS OPENED BY A PROMINENT AMOUNT OF CONFUSION
AAHH! MY BACK! KIN, HELP!
AND IT'S CLOSED BY AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF COMPREHENSION!
SHOW
FORGATH! YOU HAVE TO GET CONFUSED! NOW!
DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO! I'M THE ONE BUSTIN' MY ASS TO GET US OUT OF HERE!
WHEN I SAY "START", I NEED YOU TO GO UPWARDS RED-WAYS!
WHAT?!
I SAID GO UP...
EEEEEAH!
GAAAH!

OKAY, I'M GOING TO TRY THIS ONE THIS TIME
HANGING EVERY ONE
WHHHH
THWWP
BAH!
THWWP
OKAY SO WHAT WAS THAT, BLUE? SO YELLOW IS CONNECTED TO BLUE?
YES BUT THERE ARE TWO SHADES OF BLUE, WHAT COULD THAT MEAN?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT FOX? THERE'S ONLY ONE BLUE THAT ONE OVER THERE IS GREEN
NO THAT ONE IS SKY BLUE, THAT ONE IS SEA BLUE!
BOTH OF YOU SHUT UP AND FOCUS!
I NEED A RED ONE
KLIK
LET'S SEE, RED WAS CONNECTED TO GREY, LET ME JUST SET TO A GREY ONE, DIES
THERE IS NO GREY
ARE YOU CRAZY?! THERE'S A GREY RIGHT THERE!
THAT'S OFF WHITE
OKAY, THAT'S IT! I'M EATING BOTH OF YA!


WHHHHH
THWWP
OKAY, NOW TRY A SKIN COLOURED ONE
YOU MEAN A WHITE ONE?
SHE MEANS A GREEN ONE
I MEAN AN ORANGE ONE!
WHHHHH
THWWP
AAAAH!
LH-CHING
LH-CHING
OOF!
DIES!
DIES ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
YEAH YEAH I THINK SO
WHY ARE YOU GOBLINS HAVING SO MUCH TROUBLE WITH THIS? YOU ALL GOT OFF OF THE BLOCK HANGING FROM CHAINS WITHOUT A PROBLEM!
WELL ONCE YOU GOT IT SWINGING AGAIN, JUMPING ACROSS TO THE EXIT PLATFORM WAS EASY
EXACTLY! I'M CARRYING ALL OF YOU THROUGH THIS WHOLE DUNGEON!
I'M SO GLAD THAT'S OVER


HUH?
THUMP
AAAAAAEEEEE!
GH-CHING
AAHH!
AAAH!
AAAAA!
THUMP
HUFF
HUFF
DES!
DES, WHAT'S WRONG?!
JUST HANG TIGHT, WE'LL BE THERE IN A MOMENT


OKAY, SWING TO THAT OTHER POLE
I AM!
K'SELISS, WATCH YOUR TAIL!
FOX LOOK OUT!
IT IS OKAY, KLIK IS HELPING ME.
CAN YOU REACH THE LEDGE?
STOP PULLING ON MY TAIL!
WELL MOVE YOUR DAMN TAIL!
DIES ARE YOU OKAY?
OFF THE FLOOR! GET OFF OF THE CLEAR FLOOR!
WHAT?
KLIK
HOLY ..!
WHOA!
THUMP
THUMP THUMP
THUMP
CAN IT BREAK THROUGH?
I DON'T KNOW
THUMP
THUMP THUMP
WHAT IS IT? WHY IS IT EVEN DOWN THERE?
K'SELISS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SCRICK

K SELISS, WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT? DID YOU JUST RIP OFF ITS FINGER?!
DON'T EAT THAT! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT IS
HEY. LIZARDFOLK HAVE TWENTY SEVEN WAYS TO SAY "HELLO"! ELEVEN OF THOSE WAYS INVOLVE EATING A PART OF WHO WE'RE GREETING. SO STOP MESSING UP MY DIPLOMACY CHECK, YA PEE SACK!
EH?
AAAAH!
WHAT'S WRONG?
MY HANDS! THEY FEEL LIKE THEY'RE ON FIRE!
THUMP
CRACK
CAN WE OPEN THIS DOOR?
I THINK IT NEEDS A KEY
WE HAVE TO LEAVE THIS AREA FAST
THEN WE MIGHT HAVE TO GO DOWN THAT HALLWAY
THUMP
THUMP
WHICH MEANS WALKING ON THAT CLEAR FLOOR

WELL THE LONGER WE THINK ABOUT IT, THE CLOSER THAT THING COMES TO KILLING US
THUMP
THE FLOOR'S ALL CRACKED UP! THERE'S NO WAY IT'LL HOLD MY WEIGHT!
THEN STAY HERE
THUMP
I CAN'T! I CAN'T GO BACK OUT THERE!
IF WE STAY HERE, WE'LL ALL DIE HORRIBLY IT'LL BE OKAY, C'MON
I STOPPED BANGING. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
I DON'T CARE, LET'S JUST KEEP MOVING.
THUMP
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE! MY HANDS ARE BURNING UP!
YOU HEAL A LOT FASTER THAN THE REST OF US. WHATEVER'S WRONG, I'M SURE IT'LL CLEAR UP SOON.
LOOK, THERE'S A TURN-OFF!
BUT WHAT'S THAT?

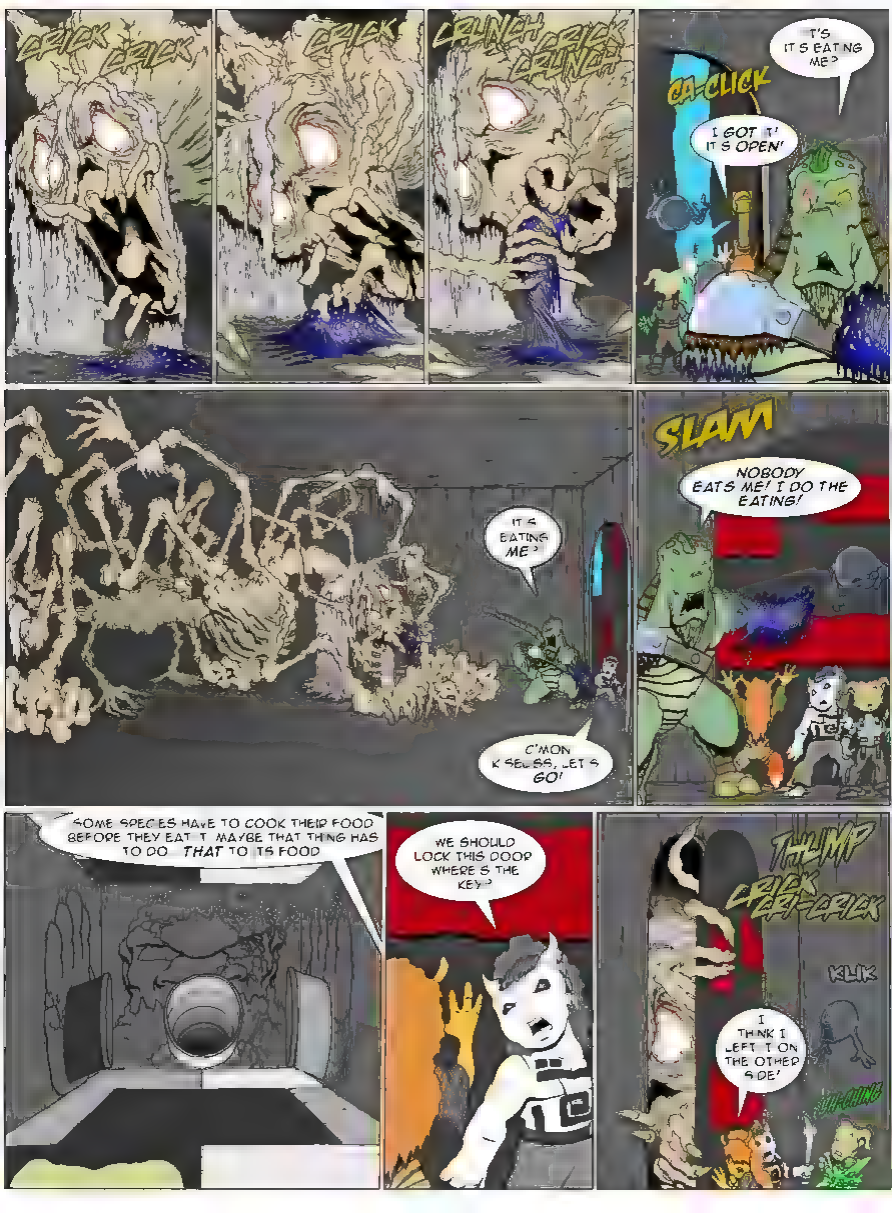
WHATEVER THIS BIG THING IS, DON'T TOUCH IT
HEY, IS THAT A KEY DOWN THERE?
WHERE?
THERE, AT THE BASE OF THAT POLE IT COULD BE FOR THAT DOOR WE COULDN'T OPEN
WELL IF IT IS IT'S GOT TO BE HEAVILY TRAPPED
WE SHOULD SEND KLIK TO GO GET IT
KLIK
HEY, KLIK ISN'T JUST SOME TRAP SPRINGER THAT YOU CAN THROW INTO A ROOM. HE'S A MEMBER OF THIS PARTY
KLIK
PLUS, HE'D MOST LIKELY EAT THE KEY
KLIK
IS HE STILL HUNGRY?! I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU FEED HIM MOST OF YOUR ARMOUR!
GREM, YOU TRY FLYING AROUND AND SHAPESHIFTING AND WE'LL SEE HOW MUCH ENERGY YOU USE UP!
ALRIGHT, FINE. YOU DON'T WANT THE INVULNERABLE, FLYING ORB TO GO INTO THE TRAPPED AREA, THEN YOU GO
NO
DIES HORRIBLY ISN'T WALKING INTO ANY DANGEROUS AREAS WE'RE TRYING TO POSTPONE HIS GRUESOME DESTINY FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN
WHEN DID YOU START FOLLOWING THE RULES OF DESTINY? I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE IN THAT STUFF
WHEN I WAS A YOUNGLING, I THOUGHT I'D BROKEN FREE OF MY FATE. I SEE NOW THAT WE'RE ALL PUPPETS TO DESTINY. MY WHOLE LIFE HAS BEEN
FOR THE LOVE OF MEAT, SHUT UP! NO ONE WANTS TO HEAR YOUR EMO CHARACTER BACKGROUND! MY HANDS ARE LITERALLY MELTING AWAY AND I'M COMPLAINING LESS THAN YOU ARE! JUST GRAB THE DAMN KEY AND LET'S GO!

THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
IT'S STILL WORKING ON THAT CRACK. WE DON'T HAVE ANY TIME TO ARGUE
OES, YOU AND I WILL GO GET THE KEY
I SAID NO
IF THE END OF THIS HALLWAY IS TRAPPED, DIES' HAND MIGHT BE USEFUL. DON'T WORRY, I'LL STAY W TH HIM. YOU WAIT HERE WITH K'SELISS
I'M SCARED
Y'KNOW, MAYBE THE KEY ISN'T TRAPPED. MAYBE THIS IS JUST AN UNEVENTFUL HALLWAY
I SAID I'M SCARED, NOT STUPID
IT'S OKAY, I KNOW HOW TO BYPASS TRAPS
YOU DO?
TINK
RUN!
CLAAAAASH
AAEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
AAEEEEAAAAOOOOOOOOO
FOX! THINGS ARE HAPPENING! RUN!

AW CRAP
GO! GO! GO!
GET DOWN!
KLAANG
CLICK
HUFF HUFF
WHAT WAS THE POINT OF BRINGING ME ALONG IF ALL YOU WERE GOING TO DO WAS
TRAP'S NOT DONE YET
CRUUUUMBLE
WHAT?!
CRUUUNCH
CRASH
FWUMP
CRACK-SMASH

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
C'MON LET'S GET THIS KEY TO THE DOOR
OH NO
GREM
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
GREM.
GREM. I THINK WE SHOULD LEAVE HERE
CRI-CRICK
CRICK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRI-CRICK
CRICK

SPEM, LET'S GO!
I AM A GOBLIN PRINCE
I KNOW WHEN TO FIGHT
THUMP
I AM A COWARD!
CRICK
CRICK
I KNOW WHEN TO RUN!
CRI-CRICK
COME ON!
CRICK
CRICK
CRICK
FOX! GET THAT DOOR OPEN!
AAH!
MY ARM!
NO!
OPEN THE DOOR!
I'M TRYING! IT'S NOT WORKING!
CRICK
CRACK
WE'LL MAKE IT WORK
I'M TRYING! IT WON'T OPEN!
CRI-CRICK
CRICK
CRACK


CRICK CRICK
CRICK
CRUNCH CRICK CRUNCH
CA-CLICK
I GOT IT! IT'S OPEN!
IT'S IT'S EATING ME?
IT'S EATING ME?
C'MON K'SEUSS, LET'S GO!
SLAM
NOBODY EATS ME! I DO THE EATING!
SOME SPECIES HAVE TO COOK THEIR FOOD BEFORE THEY EAT IT. MAYBE THAT THING HAS TO DO THAT TO ITS FOOD
WE SHOULD LOCK THIS DOOR WHERE'S THE KEY?
THUMP
CRICK CRT-CRICK
KLIK
I THINK I LEFT IT ON THE OTHER SIDE!
FLIP FLOP

K'SEJISS!
GET OVER HERE AND HELP US!
SCREW THIS, I'M OUTTA HERE
IT'S TOO STRONG!
DON'T LET IT TOUCH YOU!
FORGIVE ME MOTHER
THWUMP
GET AWAY FROM THE DOOR, FOOD! YOU'RE JUST IN MY WAY!
YOU CAME BACK
SHUT UP! IF ANYONE ASKS, I'M SAYING THAT I ATE YOUR LEGS AND LEFT YOU ALL HERE TO DIE!
LISTEN, GREM'S STRENGTH BARELY MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN HOLDING THE DOOR SHUT! THE REST OF YOU ARE JUST PISSING ME OFF, SO GET OUT OF HERE!
HE'S RIGHT. IF WE MAKE A RUN FOR THOSE TUBES, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'LL HAVE TIME TO LINE UP IN FRONT OF ONE. YOU AND DIES GO DOWN FIRST.
ALRIGHT, BUT YOU BETTER BE RIGHT BEHIND US!
WE WILL...
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
YOU KNOW THAT ONCE WE START RUNNING, THIS FINGER HORROR WILL EASILY CATCH US BOTH.
JUST DON'T EAT MY LEGS, ALRIGHT?

NNNNRRRR!
HUFF
HUFF
YOUR YOUR KIND GROWS ITS LIMBS BACK RIGHT?
NOPE
I HATE GOBLINS GREM BUT I HATE THAT THING EVEN MORE
LISTEN, IT STOPPED TO EAT YOUR OTHER ARM, SO IT MIGHT STOP TO EAT THIS ONE WHILE WE
YEAH YEAH I KNOW
YOU HEAR THAT, YA BASTARD? THIS IS THE LAST PIECE O' ME YER GONNA GET!
ALRIGHT LET'S GO!
K SEE SS COME ON!
CRICK
CRICK
CRICK
THUMP
RRAAAAA!

CRICK
CRICK
CLUNK
CRICK
K'SELISS!
SSSSSSSSS
AAHHH!
CRUNCH
ALIH!
SCREEEE

AAAAH!
RWAAAA!
KER-SPLASH!
K'SEJISS!
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
CRICK
CRICK
SPLASH!
GASP!

CRICK
CRICK-CRICK
SPLASHHHHH!
SPLASH'UNK
UH!
HUFF
HUFF
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
WELL?! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! COME AT ME! COME AT ME AND LET'S SEE WHICH ONE OF US IS DOING THE EATING!
CRACK
YOU'RE JUST GONNA WAIT FOR ME TO DIE, AREN'T YA YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A DAMN MEAL, YOU JUST AIN'T BEEN CHEWED UP YET
SPLUUUPK!
CRICK
CRACK
CRACK
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
CRICK
SPLASH
SPLASH-SPLASH
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
CRICK

CRICK
CRI-CRICK
SPLASH
SPA-LAASH
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
CRICK
CRICK
CRICK
CRICK

CRICK
CRA-CRICK
CRICK CRICK
CRICK
SSSSZK
RAAAAA!
CRICK
CRI-CRICK
CRI-CRICK CRACK
CRICK CRI-CR CRICK
CRICK
RRRRUHRRR!
CRI-CRICK CRICK CRACK
RRAAWWW!
CA-
-SPLASSH

SPLA-LISH SPLISH
SPLISH
K'SEJISS!
OOFF
I TOLD YA I DO!
THE EATING
-10

HUFF
HUFF
DO YOU THINK WE LOST THEM?
I DON'T KNOW. THEY MIGHT BE TOYING WITH US
WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT THE MAIN ROAD. GOBLINS ARE ALWAYS IN THE WOODS
AND GOBLINS ARE ALWAYS ON THE MAIN ROAD. THEY'RE EVERYWHERE
HEY! HEY FORGATH, CHECK IT OUT! I THINK THAT'S ONE OF THOSE POORLY LOCKED CHESTS!
SO?
MOST PEOPLE DIE JUST TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM THE GOBLINS AND YOU WANT TO STEAL FROM THEM?!
IF THERE ARE MAGIC ITEMS IN THERE, IT'LL INCREASE OUR CHANCES
MINMAX! YOU'RE GOING TO BE SPOTTED! GET BACK HERE!
CRAAK!
NAMES!
I WANT YOU TO RUN MINMAX
I LIKE WHEN ADVENTURERS TRY TO RUN
RHAAAAA!
A/N: GREAT

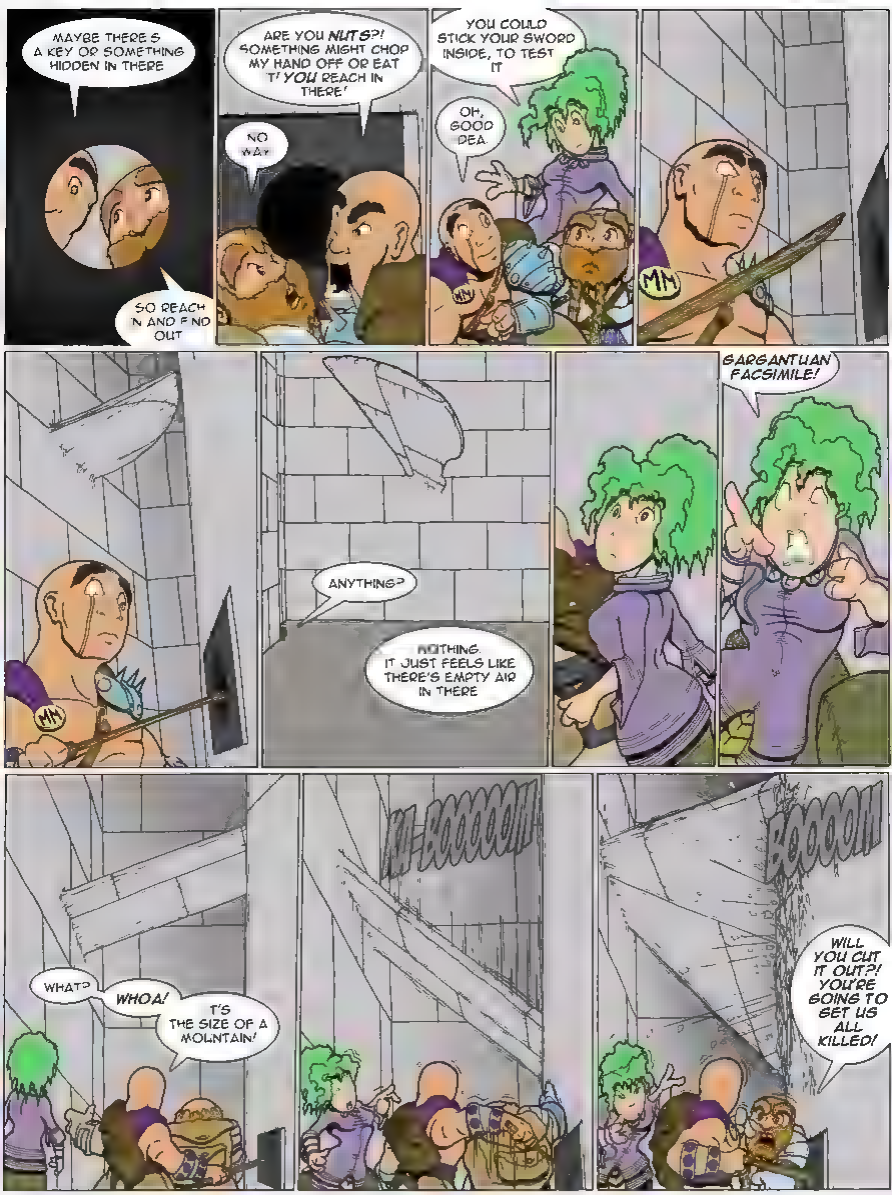
MINMAX!
MINMAX! THE BLUE LEAF! GO FOR THE BLUE LEAF!
REALITY #88. NOW
RIGHT!
THWAK
CLICK

MINMAX, THE OTHER KIN JUST PULLED ONE OF HER CHAINS! WATCH YOUR
REALITY #117
CRICK
THRUNCH
KIN!
KIN, I DROPPED MY SWORD! I NEED ONE OF THOSE TORCHES!
REALTY #54 AND REALITY #10
NO PROBLEM
THWACK

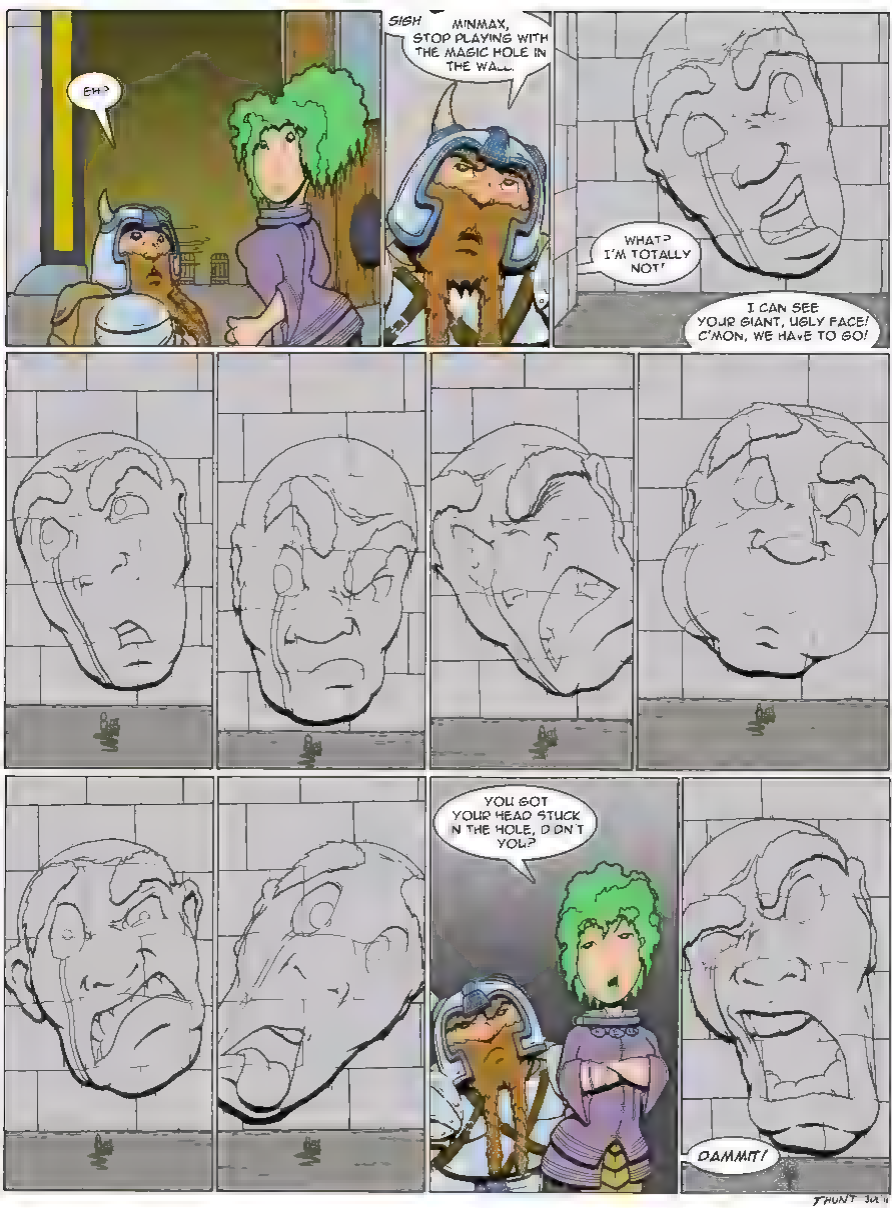
BWAAAAAAAH!
WILL YOU HURRY UP?!
I CAN'T GO WITH YOU TWO STARING AT ME
NO ONE'S STARING AT YOU! JUST GO PEE SO WE CAN MOVE ON!
REALITY #156 "OUR" REALITY
ARE YOU GUYS LOOKING?
NO!
WELL, SOMEBODY'S LOOKING, CAUSE I CAN'T GO!
GO WORK ON A WAY TO OPEN THE GIANT DOOR
THERE IS NO WAY TO OPEN THE GIANT DOOR, IT'S TOO BIG
THEN GO LOOK FOR SECRET DOORS OR SOMETHING. GEEZ!
DOES HE USUALLY HAVE THIS PROBLEM?
ME? WHY WOULD I MAKE HIM NERVOUS?
NOPE. IT'S CAUSE OF YOU YOU MAKE HIM NERVOUS
WELL, LAST TIME HE TRIED TO PEE NEAR YOU, YOU DID USE THE PHRASE "PENIS GO BOOM".
RIGHT

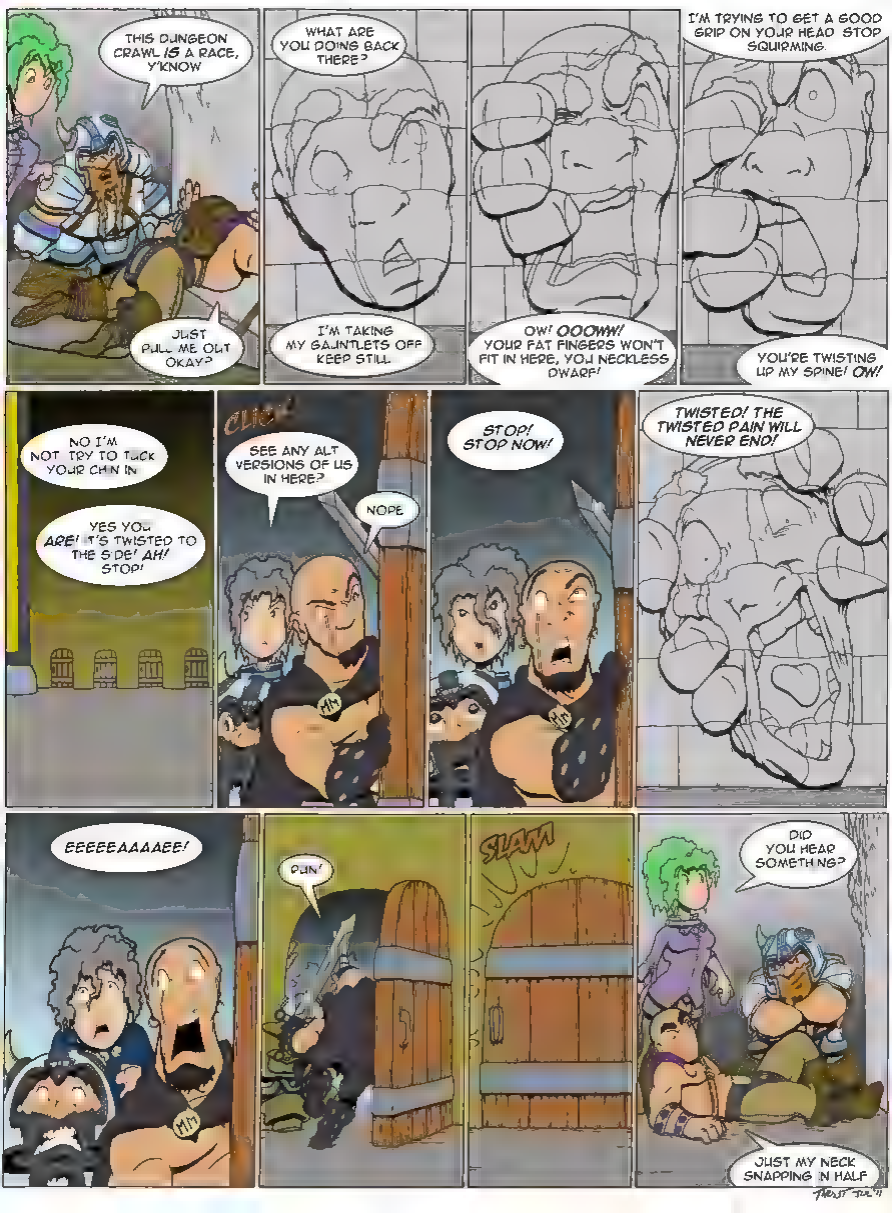
YOU THINK THERE ARE ANY SECRET DOORS IN HERE?
PROBABLY I MEAN, ALL WE HAVE TO WORK WITH IN THIS ROOM IS THE GIANT DOOR AND THE DOOR WE CAME IN.
I THINK THIS LIP IN THE WALL IS A GOOD PLACE TO START LOOKING. THEN WE CAN
THIS DOESN'T MAKE ME GAY, Y'KNOW! JUST CAUSE I'M HAVING SOME TROUBLE PEEING, DOESN'T MEAN I'M NOT ALL MAN!
HOW YOU PEE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR SEXUAL ORIENTATION.
THEN WE CAN WORK OUR WAY TOWARD
YOU'D KNOW!
TOWARD THAT CORNER AND
CAUSE YOU'RE SO GAY! GET IT?
MINMAX, YOU'RE THE ONLY ADVENTURER WHO HAS TO MAKE A CONCENTRATION CHECK TO PEE!
SIGH
I SHOULD BE ADVENTURING WITH A DWARF A MUTE ONE
CLICK
KPPPPPPPR
HEY! YOU DID T, FORGATH!
HEH.
KPPPPR
CLICK
WHY'D YOU CLOSE IT?
THERAPEUTIC REASONS WATCH THIS
AWRIIIIIGHT! MINMAX 1 PEE 0
DID YOU FIND ANY SECRET DOORS?

NO SECRET DOORS AT ALL. SORRY, MINMAX.
DAMN. THIS ROOM IS HARD
IT LOOKS LIKE OUR ONLY CHANCE IS .
SPLYING!
AW, COME ON! I HATE SPLYING
SPLYING?
THE ANCIENT ART OF SPLYING USES THE RAREST DWARVEN MAGICS TO FIND ANYTHING. THE BIGGEST DRAWBACK IS THAT THE POWERFUL INCANTATION MUST BE RECITED BY A BALD HUMAN WE'VE DONE IT BEFORE
INDEED
MINMAX BEGIN THE ANCIENT, DWARVEN INCANTATION!
WELL?
ALRIGHT!
SIGH
I'M A LITTLE TEAPOT SHORT AND FAT
HERE IS MY HANDLE, HERE IS MY SPOUT
WHEN I GET ALL STEAMED UP, HEAR ME WHINE. TIP ME OVER AND POUR ME EVERYWHERE
SNICKER
SNICKER
WELL? ARE YOU PICKING ANYTHING UP?
HEE HEE HA!
YEAH, MY INNATE, DWARF POWERS ARE PICKING UP A SECRET DOOR RIGHT THERE
HA HAH!
REALLY? COOL!
CLICK
HEY, THIS SECRET DOOR IS JUST A HOLE IN THE WALL. IT'S TOO SMALL
IT IS?
HMMM. MAYBE YOU NEED TO SAY THE INCANTATION AGAIN. THIS TIME TRY IT LOUDER AND LIKE A DRUNK, BRASSMOONIAN WHORE
NO MORE SPLYING!

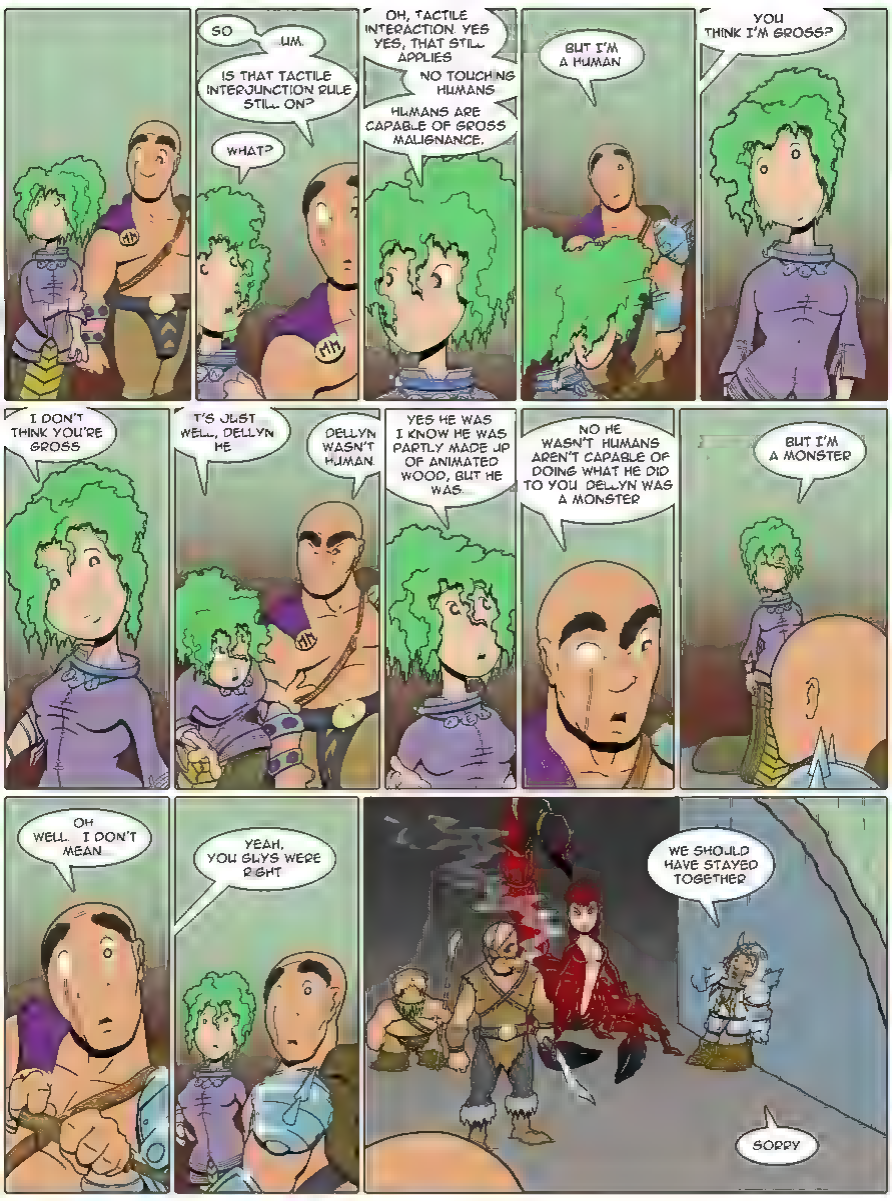

MAYBE THERE'S A KEY OR SOMETHING HIDDEN IN THERE
SO REACH N AND F ND OUT
ARE YOU NUTS?! SOMETHING MIGHT CHOP MY HAND OFF OR EAT IT! YOU REACH IN THERE!
NO WAY
YOU COULD STICK YOUR SWORD INSIDE, TO TEST IT
OH, GOOD IDEA
MH
MH
ANYTHING?
NOTHING. IT JUST FEELS LIKE THERE'S EMPTY AIR IN THERE
GARGANTUAN FACSIMILE!
WHAT?
WHOA!
IT'S THE SIZE OF A MOUNTAIN!
KA-BOOOOOM
BOOOOM
WILL YOU CUT IT OUT?! YOU'RE GOING TO GET US ALL KILLED!

WELL SOE-REE! WHY DON'T YOU CRUCIFY A GUY FOR NOT TAKING 'MOUNTAIN' AS A WEAPON PROFICIENCY!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN REACH THROUGH THE HOLE AND OPEN THAT GIANT DOOR?
I DON'T KNOW, LET ME SEE
KA-BOOOOOOOOOOOOM
HOLY HERBERT! WILL YOU BE MORE CAREFUL?!
DON'T YELL AT ME, IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN SEE OR FEEL WHAT I'M DOING!
A LITTLE TO THE LEFT MINMAX
HIGHER
A BIT HIGHER
YOU GOT IT!
AAAA

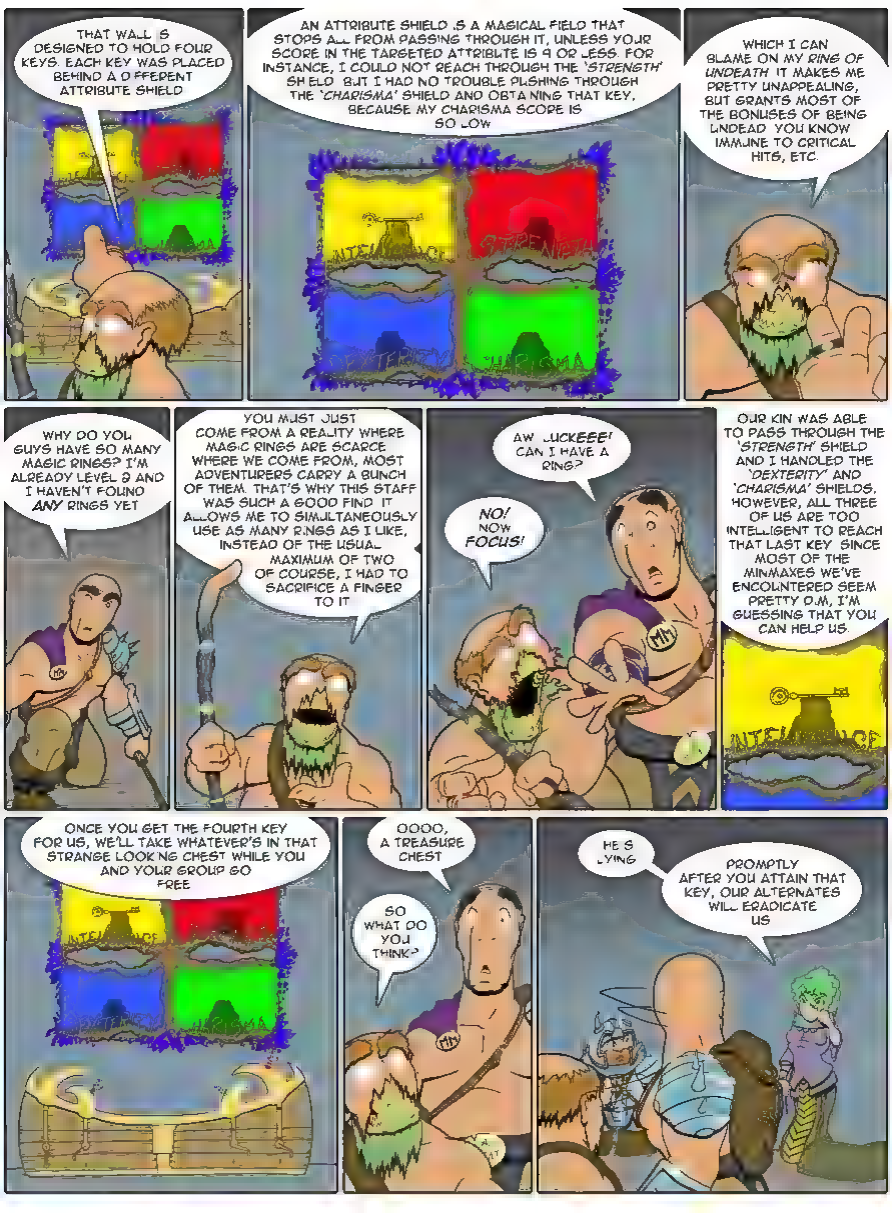

EH?
SIGH
MINMAX, STOP PLAYING WITH THE MAGIC HOLE IN THE WALL.
WHAT? I'M TOTALLY NOT!
I CAN SEE YOUR GIANT, UGLY FACE! C'MON, WE HAVE TO GO!
YOU GOT YOUR HEAD STUCK IN THE HOLE, DIDN'T YOU?
DAMMIT!


THIS DUNGEON CRAWL IS A RACE, Y'KNOW
JUST PULL ME OUT OKAY?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK THERE?
I'M TAKING MY GAUNTLETS OFF KEEP STILL
I'M TRYING TO GET A GOOD GRIP ON YOUR HEAD STOP SQUIRMING
OW! OOOWW! YOUR FAT FINGERS WON'T FIT IN HERE, YOU NECKLESS DWARF!
YOU'RE TWISTING UP MY SPINE! OW!
NO I'M NOT TRY TO TUCK YOUR CHIN IN
YES YOU ARE! IT'S TWISTED TO THE SIDE! AH! STOP!
CLIC
SEE ANY ALT VERSIONS OF US IN HERE?
NOPE
STOP! STOP NOW!
TWISTED! THE TWISTED PAIN WILL NEVER END!
EEEEEAAAAEE!
PUIN!
SLAM
DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
JUST MY NECK SNAPPING IN HALF

SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT
BEHIND THE GIANT DOOR IS FIVE REGULAR SIZED DOORS?
...UP
THAT'S JUST LAZY DUNGEON CRAFTING
CLICK
HEY! HOW DO YOU KNOW IF THAT'S THE RIGHT DOOR?
I DON'T, BUT IF WE WANT TO WIN THIS THING, WE HAVE TO MOVE FAST
C'MON!
FORSATH, WE SHOULD STAY TOGETHER
SHE'S RIGHT!
LET'S GO!
FINE, BUT IF YOU FALL INTO SOME TRAP THAT SHOOTS ACID UP YOUR BUTT OR SOMETHING, I'M JUST GOING TO LAUGH!
"ACID UP YOUR BUTT"?
HEH OH YEAH, BUTT ACID IS VERY COMMON IN THESE PARTS
THE TRAP WAS FIRST INVENTED BY THE GREAT WIZARD, GRINDORK OUCHBOTTOM.
SNICKER
FROM BEYOND THE SIZZLECHEEK MOUNTAINS
PFFFHAH HA! HA!


SO
UM.
IS THAT TACTILE INTERJUNCTION RULE STILL ON?
WHAT?
OH, TACTILE INTERACTION. YES YES, THAT STILL APPLIES
NO TOUCHING HUMANS
HUMANS ARE CAPABLE OF GROSS MALIGNANCE.
BUT I'M A HUMAN
YOU THINK I'M GROSS?
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GROSS
IT'S JUST WELL, DELLYN IS
DELLYN WASN'T HUMAN.
YES HE WAS I KNOW HE WAS PARTLY MADE UP OF ANIMATED WOOD, BUT HE WAS.
NO HE WASN'T HUMANS AREN'T CAPABLE OF DOING WHAT HE DID TO YOU. DELLYN WAS A MONSTER
BUT I'M A MONSTER
OH WELL. I DON'T MEAN
YEAH, YOU GUYS WERE RIGHT
WE SHOULD HAVE STAYED TOGETHER
SORRY

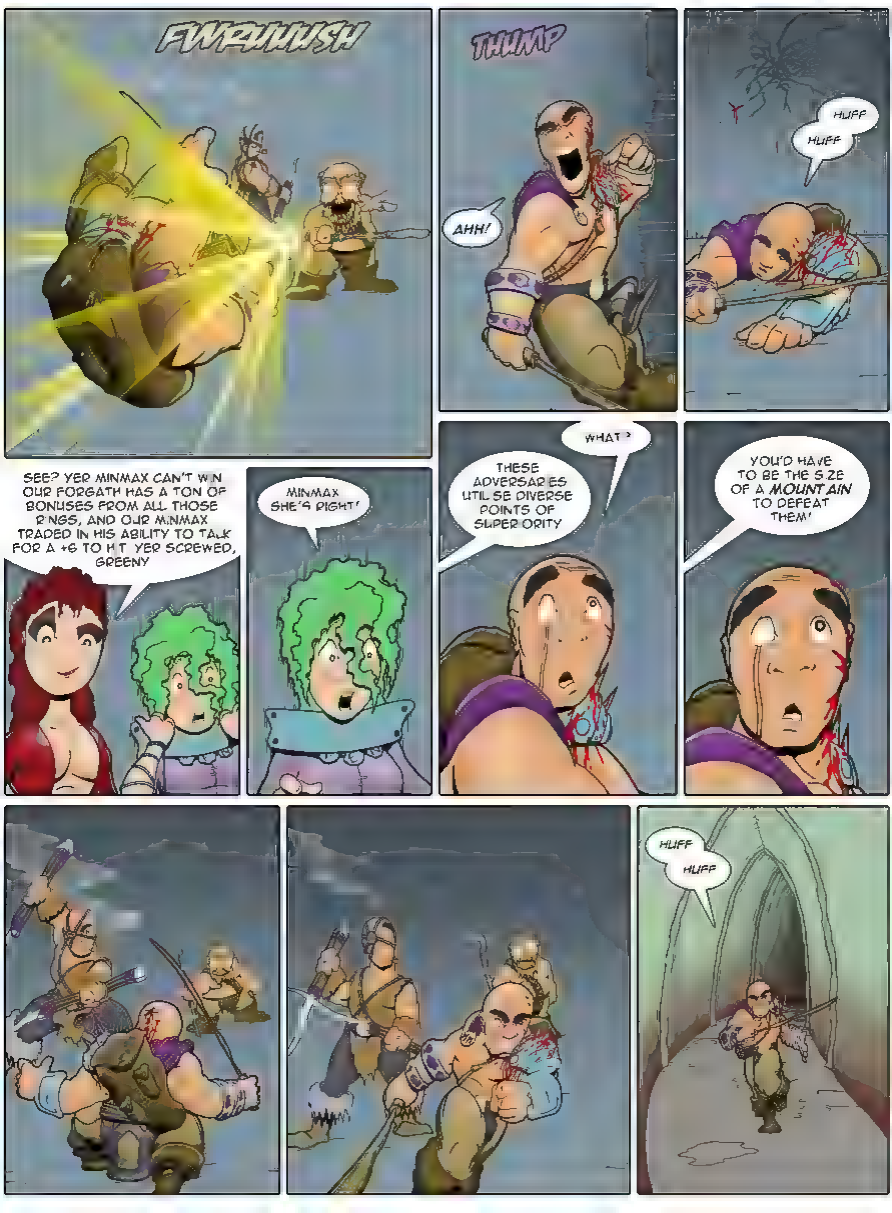
HEY!
THAT'S MY DWARF!
HOLD PERSON!
SHWONK
MINMAX!
FWIM
CLANK
MMMF!
OH CHILL OUT, MINMAX. IF WE WANTED TO, WE COULD'VE KILLED YOUR FORGATH BEFORE YOU EVEN SAW US. NO, WHAT WE WANT IS A TEMPORARY TRUCE. A DEAL THAT ENDS WITH OUR GROUP GOING OUR WAY AND YOUR GROUP GOING YOURS.
SHWONK
OR YOU COULD ATTACK US, AND WE COULD JUST KILL ALL THREE OF YOU RIGHT NOW.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?


THAT WALL IS DESIGNED TO HOLD FOUR KEYS. EACH KEY WAS PLACED BEHIND A DIFFERENT ATTRIBUTE SHIELD
AN ATTRIBUTE SHIELD IS A MAGICAL FIELD THAT STOPS ALL FROM PASSING THROUGH IT, UNLESS YOUR SCORE IN THE TARGETED ATTRIBUTE IS 9 OR LESS. FOR INSTANCE, I COULD NOT REACH THROUGH THE 'STRENGTH' SHIELD, BUT I HAD NO TROUBLE FLASHING THROUGH THE 'CHARISMA' SHIELD AND OBTAINING THAT KEY, BECAUSE MY CHARISMA SCORE IS SO LOW
WHICH I CAN BLAME ON MY RING OF UNDEATH. IT MAKES ME PRETTY UNAPPEALING, BUT GRANTS MOST OF THE BONUSES OF BEING UNDEAD. YOU KNOW, IMMUNE TO CRITICAL HITS, ETC.
WHY DO YOU GUYS HAVE SO MANY MAGIC RINGS? I'M ALREADY LEVEL 9 AND I HAVEN'T FOUND ANY RINGS YET
YOU MUST JUST COME FROM A REALITY WHERE MAGIC RINGS ARE SCARCE. WHERE WE COME FROM, MOST ADVENTURERS CARRY A BUNCH OF THEM. THAT'S WHY THIS STAFF WAS SUCH A GOOD FIND. IT ALLOWS ME TO SIMULTANEOUSLY USE AS MANY RINGS AS I LIKE, INSTEAD OF THE USUAL MAXIMUM OF TWO. OF COURSE, I HAD TO SACRIFICE A FINGER TO IT
AW, LUCKEEE! CAN I HAVE A RING?
NO! NOW FOCUS!
OUR KIN WAS ABLE TO PASS THROUGH THE 'STRENGTH' SHIELD AND I HANDLED THE 'DEXTERITY' AND 'CHARISMA' SHIELDS, HOWEVER, ALL THREE OF US ARE TOO INTELLIGENT TO REACH THAT LAST KEY. SINCE MOST OF THE MINMAXES WE'VE ENCOUNTERED SEEM PRETTY DUM, I'M GUESSING THAT YOU CAN HELP US.
ONCE YOU GET THE FOURTH KEY FOR US, WE'LL TAKE WHATEVER'S IN THAT STRANGE LOOKING CHEST WHILE YOU AND YOUR GROUP GO FREE
OOOO, A TREASURE CHEST
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HE'S LYING
PROMPTLY AFTER YOU ATTAIN THAT KEY, OUR ALTERNATES WILL ERADICATE US

I THINK KIN'S SENSE MOTIVE SCORE IS BETTER THAN YOUR BLUFF SCORE
SIGH
FINE, WE'LL GO WITH PLAN B. KILL HIM AND CUT HIS ARM OFF. WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN USE IT TO RETRIEVE THE
CRACK
GAAH!
NO! MY STAFF! MY RINGS!
OOO THIS IS GONNA BE GOOD
CA-CLICK
RRRAAAW!

CLAK
CLAKK
SHLIK
YAAHH!
THWAK
RAAHHW!
CRUNCH
HUFF
HUFF

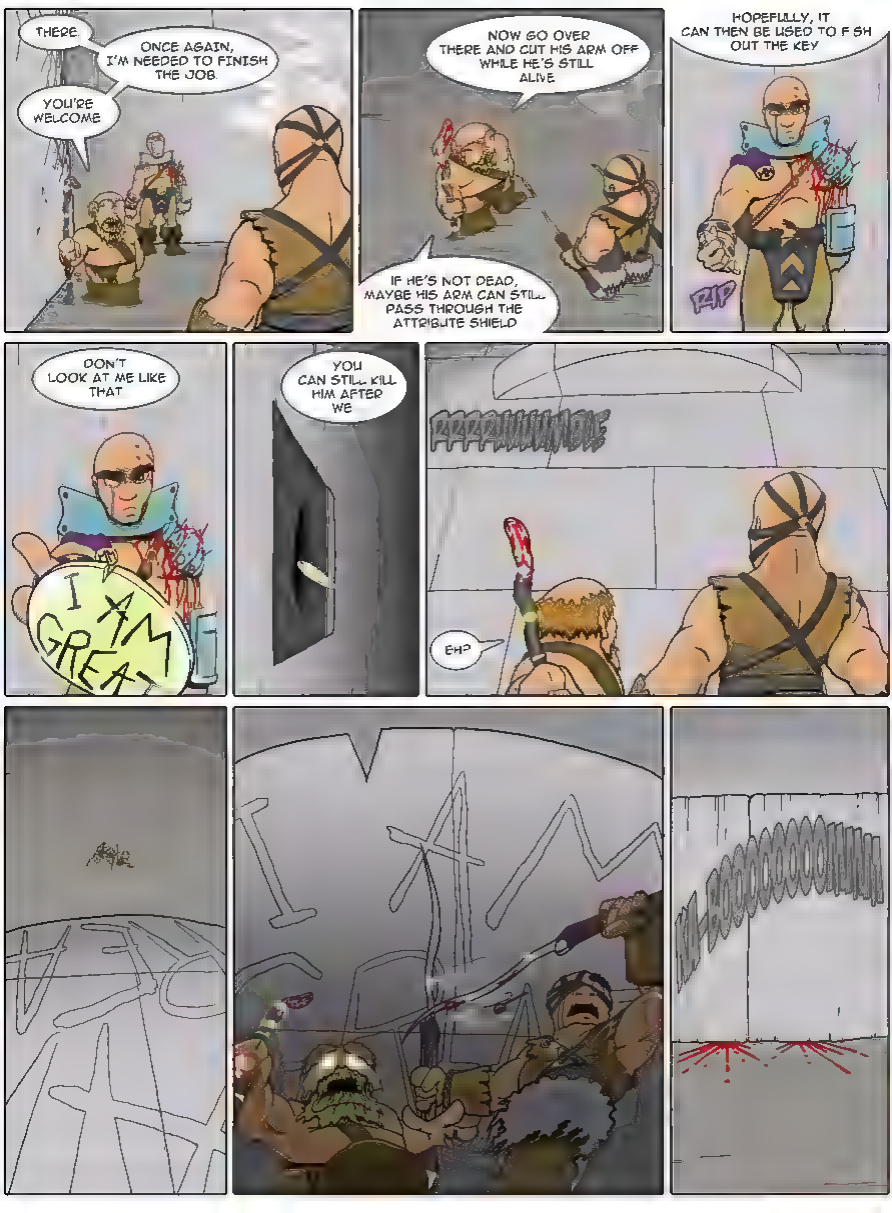
GUESS WHAT, BUDDY
I
GOT
NYAAW!
SKLUCK
YOUR SWORD
CRUNCH
UHRRRRR!
FSSSHHH
UHHHWUM
NOW YOU DIE!
CLAK
HAH!
SCLUNK
THUNK
GHAAAAHW!
AAAH!
HAAH!
GASP
COFF


FWRUUUSH
THUMP
AHH!
HUFF
HUFF
SEE? YER MINMAX CAN'T WIN OUR FORGATH HAS A TON OF BONUSES FROM ALL THOSE RINGS, AND OUR MINMAX TRADED IN HIS ABILITY TO TALK FOR A +6 TO HIT. YER SCREWED, GREENY
MINMAX SHE'S RIGHT!
WHAT?
THESE ADVERSARIES UTILISE DIVERSE POINTS OF SUPERIORITY
YOU'D HAVE TO BE THE SIZE OF A MOUNTAIN TO DEFEAT THEM!
HUFF
HUFF

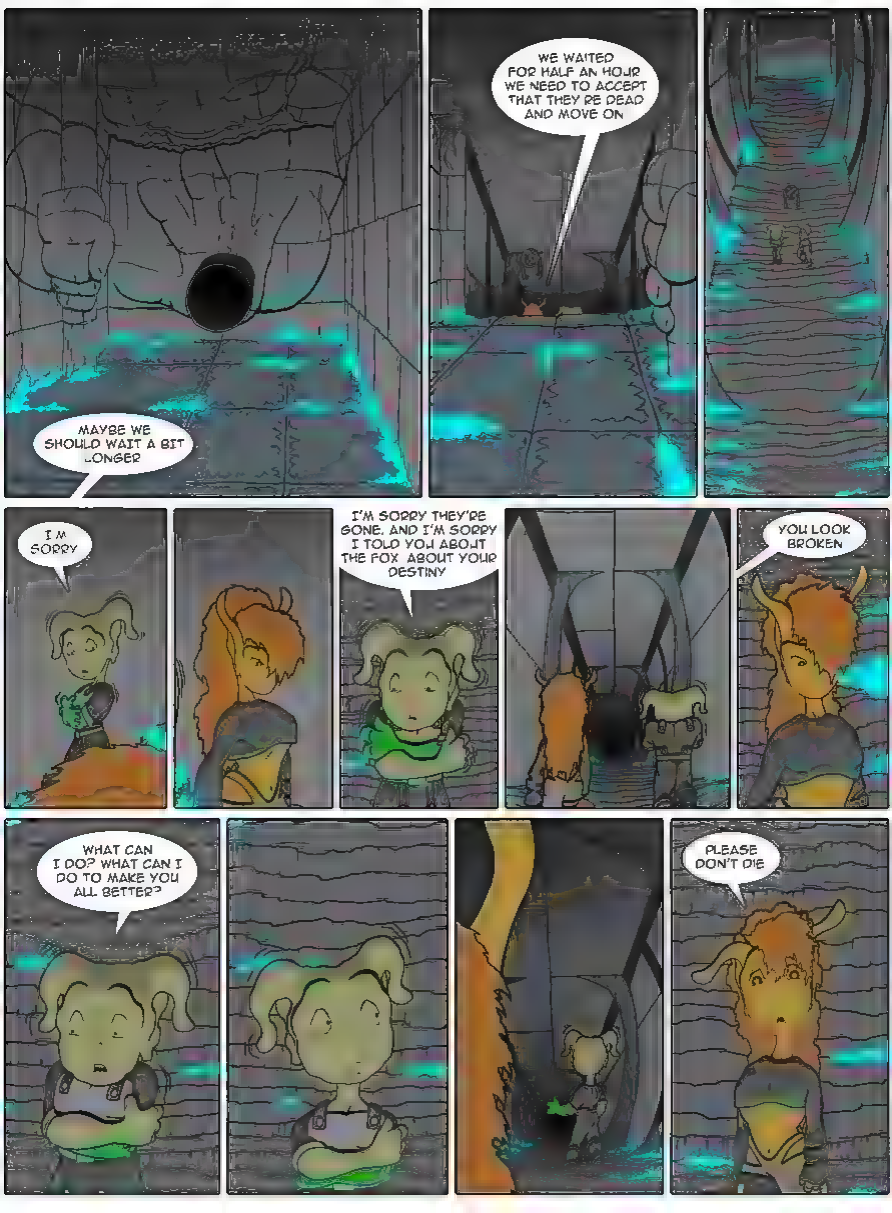
WELL?
GO AFTER HIM!
NOW WHERE THE HELL IS MY RING OF EPIC BLINKING?
IT'S OVER THERE
DAMMIT
C'MON, YOU BASTARD JUST A LITTLE CLOSER
BLINK
THUMP
FWUM
CLANK

YOU'VE LOST, Y'KNOW YOUR MINMAX IS BEING SLAUGHTERED RIGHT NOW AND I'M ABOUT TO KILL THE TWO OF YOU
MINMAX WILL AGGRESSIVELY ACHIEVE VIOLENT VICTORY OVER THOSE TWO OPPONENTS WHICH WILL ASSUREDLY FACILITATE OUR SUCCESS IN BOTH A GENERAL SED SENSE WHEN CONSIDERING THIS DUNGEON AND THE FAR MORE SPECIFIC GLERY CONCERNING THE CHRONOLOGICAL DETAILS AS TO HOW INTEGRAL YOUR OWN MORTALITY IS TO YOUR EXISTENCE
YEAH!
I'M JUST GONNA ASSUME YOU'RE THREATENING ME
BEFORE I KILL YA THOUGH, I GOTTA ASK WHAT'S UP WITH THE TAIL? EVERY VERSION OF MYSELF THAT I'VE SEEN HAS THAT LSELESS SNAKE TAIL.
AM I THE ONLY ONE WITH A SCORP ON TAIL? CAUSE IF SO, I'M *TOTALLY* THE MOST POWERFUL KIN! I MEAN, JUST LOOK AT YOUR TAIL. IT'S A SOFT HUNK OF VICTIM!
MY TAIL IS ARMOURED LIGHTNING FAST AND HAS A POISONOUS STINGER WHAT CAN YOURS DO THAT MINE CAN'T?
WELL, LACK OF AN EXOSKELETON MEANS INCREASED SENSITIVITY THROUGH PHYSICAL CONTACT
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
CAN YOU FEEL THIS?
NOPE I CAN'T FEEL A THING THROUGH MY OUTER SHELL. IT'S WHAT KEEPS ME SAFE IN BATTLE
WHERE AS I CAN FEEL BOTH OF YOUR HEARTS BEAT NG THROUGH THE VIBRATIONS I'M SENS NG
HEH SER OUSLY?

YES, BUT OUR UPPER BODIES ARE LIKELY TO HAVE SIMILAR LEVELS OF SENSORY PERCEPTION
CAN YOU PEEL THIS?
MMM... DEFINITELY
OKAY, YOUR TAIL IS ADORABLE AND HAWT, BUT USELESS IN COMBAT I'M STILL GONNA KIL...
ACK
THUMK
AHG
AKK
CRAK-SNAP
HUFF
HUFF
-10
OKAY
NEVER HUG ME


THERE
ONCE AGAIN, I'M NEEDED TO FINISH THE JOB
YOU'RE WELCOME
NOW GO OVER THERE AND CUT HIS ARM OFF WHILE HE'S STILL ALIVE
IF HE'S NOT DEAD, MAYBE HIS ARM CAN STILL PASS THROUGH THE ATTRIBUTE SHIELD
HOPEFULLY, IT CAN THEN BE USED TO F SH OUT THE KEY
RIP
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT
I AM GREAT
YOU CAN STILL KILL HIM AFTER WE
AHHH

YES! I AM GREAT, BITCHES! I AM GREAT!
I AM GREAT!
DID YOU DEFEAT THEM?
I TOTALLY DEFEATED THEIR ASSES!
YEAH!
WOO HOO!
YAY!
NOW GRAB THE MAGIC RING FROM THAT ALTERNATE MINMAX! IT'S MOST LIKELY THE ONLY THING THAT CAN FREE FORGATH AND ME!
SONOVA CRAP
FLOP


MAYBE WE SHOULD WAIT A BIT LONGER
WE WAITED FOR HALF AN HOUR WE NEED TO ACCEPT THAT THEY RE DEAD AND MOVE ON
I M SORRY
I'M SORRY THEY'RE GONE. AND I'M SORRY I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE FOX ABOUT YOUR DESTINY
YOU LOOK BROKEN
WHAT CAN I DO? WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE YOU ALL BETTER?
PLEASE DON'T DIE

THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
SH-CHING
THUMP
WHAT IS IT?
I DON'T KNOW BUT IT'S COMING THIS WAY
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
RHAAAA!
DITKLOFK
UH!
AAAAH!
AAA
HHP

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
I DON'T KNOW
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE! WE SHOULD TRY TO CLIMB BACK UP THAT TUBE
AND FACE MR FINGERS AGAIN?
THIS IS OUR ONLY WAY. COME ON
SNICHING
WELCOME GIRLS

WE SHOULD RUN WE SHOULD GO BACK UP THE STAIRS
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT
YOU PROBABLY SAW THE LARGE ORC RUNNING UP THE STAIRS, MOMENTS AGO HE MADE IT AS FAR AS HE DID BECAUSE MY MINIONS AND I FOUND IT FUNNY NOW THAT THE JOKE HAS BEEN EXHAUSTED, I DOUBT YOU'D MAKE IT QUITE SO FAR
COME CLOSER
MIND THE PILLARS. THE BLADE BEETLES DON'T LIKE TO BE DISTURBED
WHERE IS THE ORC? I DON'T SEE A BODY OR BLOOD OR ANYTHING
I AM A DEMON FROM THE SECOND LAYER OF HELL. I WAS CAPTURED AND TRAPPED HERE OVER SIX HUNDRED YEARS AGO WHEN THIS PLACE WAS BUILT. I WAS PUT HERE TO GUARD THE BLUE ORB OF BLOODLIGHT
THE ORB
SIX HUNDRED WINTERS AGO? HOW HAVE YOU SURVIVED DOWN HERE ALL THIS TIME?
DEMONS DON'T EAT FOOD THE SAME WAY MORTALS DO. THE SUFFERING OF THE IMMORTAL SOUL NOURISHES US. THE LEVEL OF SUFFERING AND QUALITY OF THE SOUL DICTATE WHICH TYPES OF NUTRIENTS WE OBTAIN
WHEN A DEMON OWNS A BEING'S SOUL, SHE HAS THE LUXURY OF KILLING THAT BEING, DEVOURING ITS PAIN, THEN PREVENTING THAT SOUL FROM TRANSCENDING TO THE NEXT STAGE OF EXISTENCE. I OWN THE ORC'S SOUL AND SO I HAVE SPENT THE LAST SIX HUNDRED YEARS SUMMONING AND KILLING HIM EVERY FEW HOURS. THIS IS HOW I HAVE STAYED ALIVE
THAT POOR ORC HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY DYING FOR SIX HUNDRED WINTERS?
YOU'RE NOT TAKING OUR SOULS, DEMON!
MOST DEMONS CAN'T TAKE SOULS BY FORCE. THEY MUST BE GIVEN FREELY. THIS IS WHY EVEN YOUR KIND IS FAMILIAR WITH THE PHRASE "DEAL WITH THE DEVIL"
WE'RE NOT TRADING OUR SOULS! NOT EVEN THE ORB IS WORTH THAT!
ASK FOR ALL THE SOULS BEFORE YOU AND THE MORTALS WILL SCREAM LOUD, THEIR DEFIANCE. ASK FOR ONE SOUL, ALLOWING ALL OTHERS TO GO FREE, AND SUDDENLY THE MORTALS WILL FIGHT EACH OTHER FOR THE RIGHT TO BE THE SELF SACRIFICING HERO. ONE SOUL FOR ONE ORB. THIS IS THE DEAL I OFFER

FORGET IT DEMON ME
FOX THIS IS MY DESTIN
WHAT ?
THINK ABOUT IT. THIS DEMON IS DEMANDING THAT ONE OF US DIE HORRIBLY, OVER AND OVER FOR ETERNITY. THIS HAS TO BE WHAT MY TELLER AND THE VIPER TELLER PREDICTED ABOUT ME
HAVE YOU TURNED STUPID?! THIS IS EXACTLY THE SORT OF THING YOU FIGHT! YOU DON'T SPOUT A BUNCH OF SUICIDAL WHINING AND ROLL OVER!
FOX, WE BOTH KNOW THAT IF WE DON'T GET THE ORB TO OLIV, SHE'LL KILL ALL THE SLAVES!
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THIS DEMON WILL KEEP HER WORD! SHE MIGHT JUST TAKE YOUR SOUL AND KEEP THE ORB!
NO BEING IS CAPABLE OF DEFYING A HELLBOUND CONTRACT. IF EITHER PARTY DOES NOT GIVE WHAT'S PROMISED OR TAKES MORE THAN WHAT WAS AGREED UPON THEY ARE CAST INTO A LAYER OF HELL SO FIERCE, THAT EVEN DEMONS FEAR TS TORTURE
DEMON I AGREE TO YOUR DEAL. MY SOUL FOR THE ORB
NO!
THE DEAL S DONE AND CANNOT BE UNDONE
TAKE THE ORB AS PER OUR DEAL. IT S NOW YOURS
THUMP
IS THIS IS THIS THE ORB OF BLOODLIGHT?
NO. THAT IS AN ORB OF ORDINARY, BLUE STONE
WHAT?!

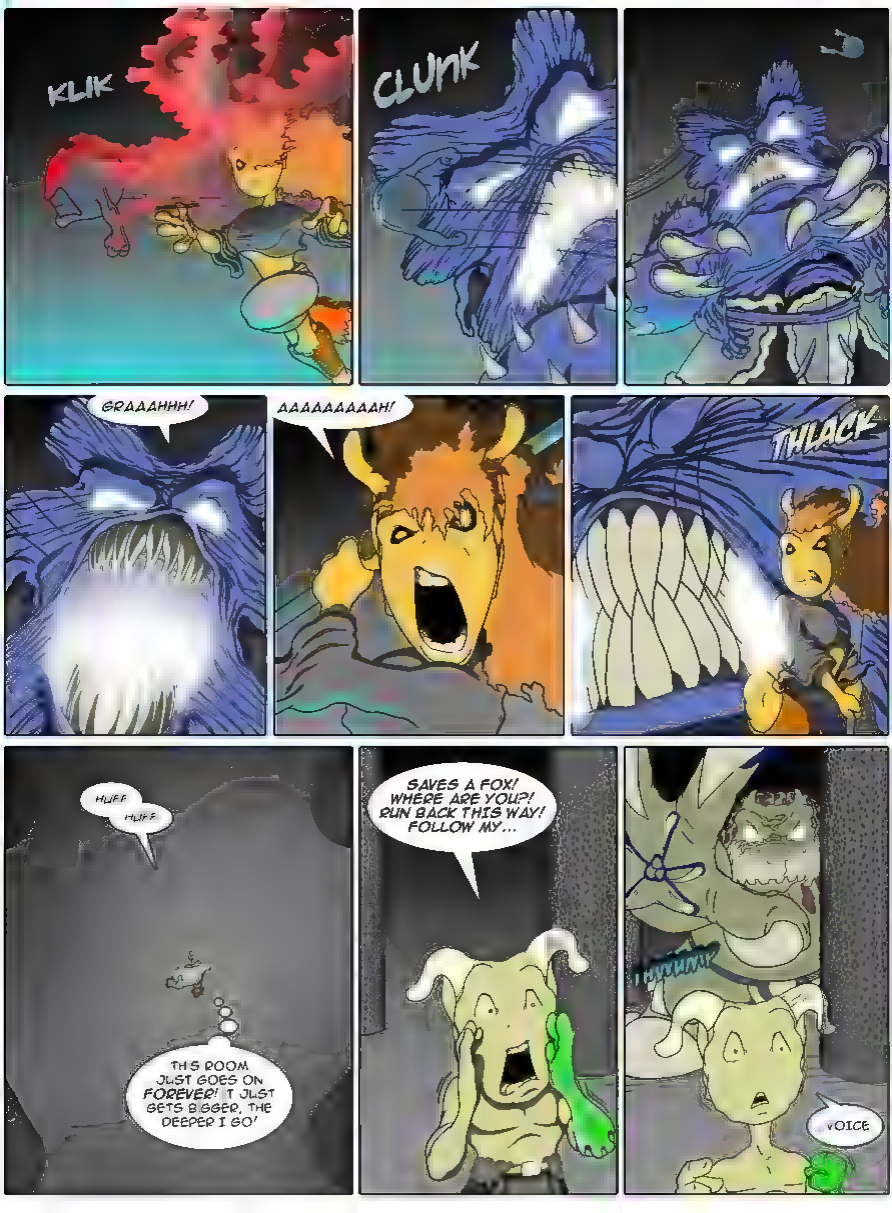
YOU SAID WE'D GET THE BLOODLIGHT ORB!
NO I SAID I WAS THE GUARDIAN OF THE ORB OF BLOODLIGHT WHICH I AM. MY OFFER WAS FOR THE ORB DISPLAYED BEHIND ME
YOU DIDN'T SPECIFY WHICH ORB WAS BEING REFERRED TO
WELL YOU'RE NOT TAKING DES! I'LL RIP YOL APART FIRST!
PLEASE TRY IT WOULD BE AMUSING TO SEE YOU DRAGGED SCREAMING INTO NIGHTMARISH AGONY FOR BREAKING THE CONTRACT AND I, AS THE ONE WHO ADHERED TO THE RULES, WOULD STILL GET HIS SOUL
KLIK
BUT THAT'S
THAT'S NOT FAIR
I FIND IT ASTOUNDING, HOW OFTEN CREATURES MISTAKE THEIR OWN STUPIDITY FOR A LACK OF FAIRNESS
FOX, LISTEN TO ME
NONONO!
I NEED YOU TO TAKE CARE OF KLIK OKAY?
JUST JUST HANG ONTO ME OR SOMETHING
NO!
GASP

CRUNCH
THE SOUL IS NOW IN THE POSSESSION OF THE DEMONESS
MMM... ES
HIS SOUL IS VERY STRONG ALMOST AS IF
WAT
THIS CAN'T
NO!
TWO SOULS?! YOU'VE SOMEHOW HID A SECOND SOUL IN HIM?! YOU'VE TRICKED ME INTO TAKING MORE THAN OUR CONTRACT ALLOWS!
NO! I DIDN'T KNOW! I MEANT TO ONLY TAKE ONE SOUL!
RRUMMBLE
PLEASE! I WAS TRICKED! THE MORTALS TRICKED ME! TAKE THEM! I DIDN'T KNOW! THE DEAL WASN'T FAIR!
I FIND IT ASTOUNDING, HOW OFTEN CREATURES MISTAKE THEIR OWN STUPIDITY FOR A LACK OF FAIRNESS
NOOOOOOOOOOOOO
CLINK
CLINK
DIES?!
KLAK KLAK
THUMP

DES, ARE YOU OKAY?
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S THE DEMON?
SHE WAS BANISHED FOR BREAKING THE CONTRACT. SHE SAID YOU HAD TWO SOULS!
TWO SOULS?
KLIK
THAT SHOULDN'T BE
KLIK
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR EARS? I CAN SEE THROUGH THEM LIKE POOLS OF WATER
HE'S MARKED. BRANDED TO WARN OTHER HELL CREATURES THAT HE BELONGS TO A DEMON. THE PLACEMENT ON HIS BODY IS RANDOM. BUT THE MEANING IS THE SAME. OF COURSE, NOW THAT THE DEMONESS HAS BEEN BANISHED, YOU'RE FREE TO DO AS YOU PLEASE. BUT SO ARE WE, SO WE'LL BE RIPPING YOU TO SHREDS NOW
SKRIIICK
SHCHUNK

KREEEEEEEE!
THWAUP
PTUu
SKKLWCK
RAAAAA!
GRAAAHHHH!
LOOK OUT!

SSSHHHHHHHWUUUM
THWUNG!!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
SHWUUM!
KLIK
KLIK
SHWANG!
SHWANG!
WANG!


KLIK
CLUNK
GRAAAHHH!
AAAAAAAAAH!
THLACK
HUFF
HUFF
THIS ROOM JUST GOES ON FOREVER! IT JUST GETS BIGGER, THE DEEPER I GO!
SAVES A FOX! WHERE ARE YOU!? RUN BACK THIS WAY! FOLLOW MY...
VOICE

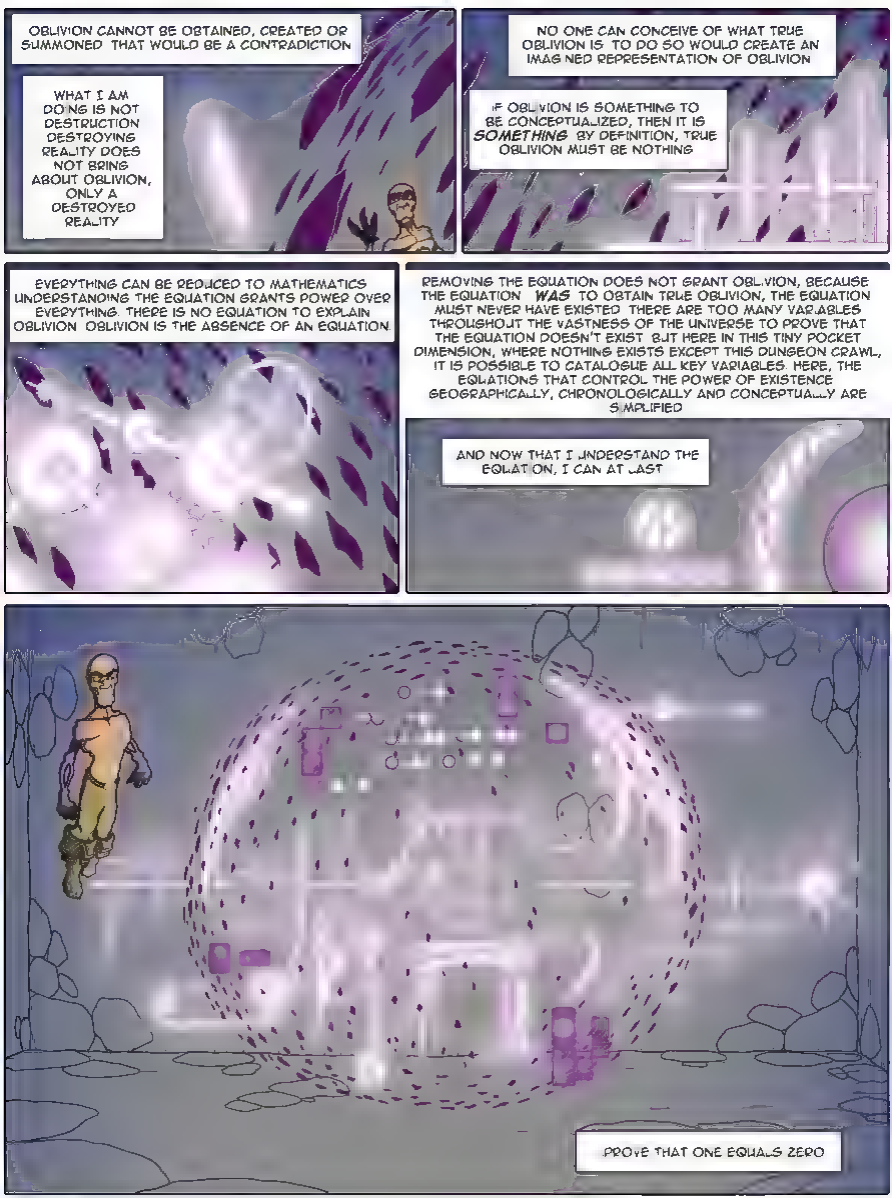
CHUNK
SH-CHING
SHKLUKK
AAH!
SH-CHING
SHKLUKK
RRRAAAH!
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
SHAAAAH!

GRAAAH!
THAT ROTTING MORTAL...IT'LL BE DAYS BEFORE I CAN USE THIS TENDRIL AGAIN
HUH?
SH-CHING
CLANK
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
I'M GOING TO RIP YOU APART
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE THAT
CRACK
IT DIDN'T WORK

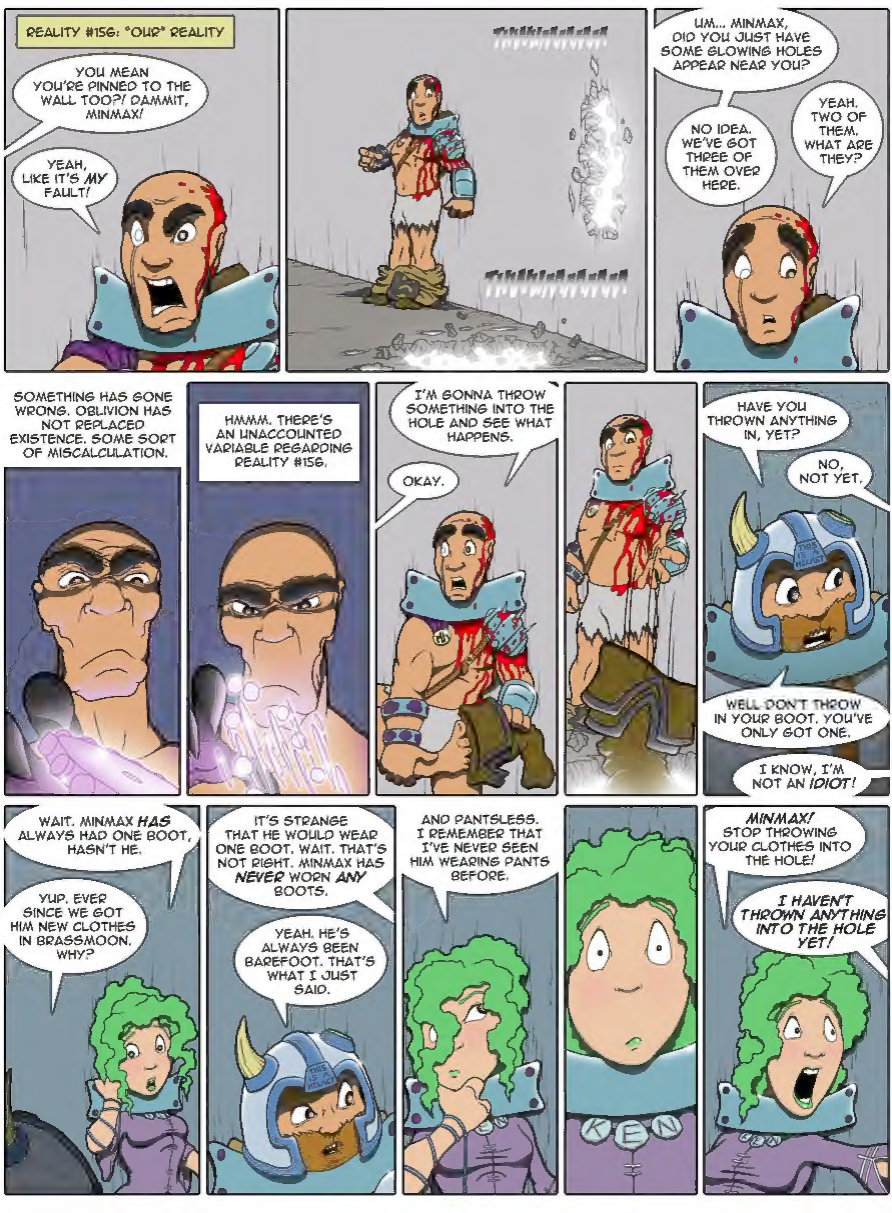
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
RRAAH!
SORRY MORTAL. NOT IMPRESSED
SH-CHING
GUAAW!
THUP
SH-CHING
KK K

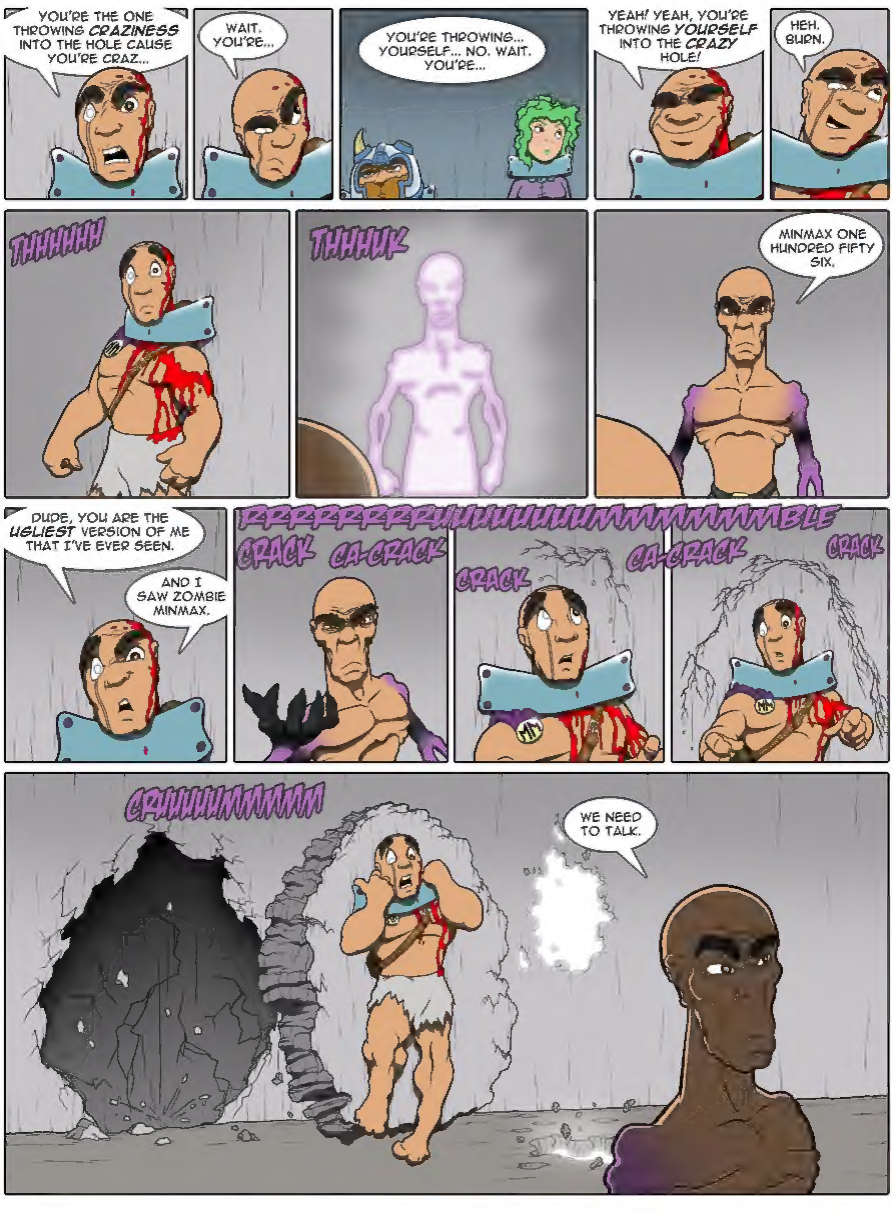
SH-CHING
SH-CHING
THA-WWWWWWWWW
THWOOOM
CRUNCH

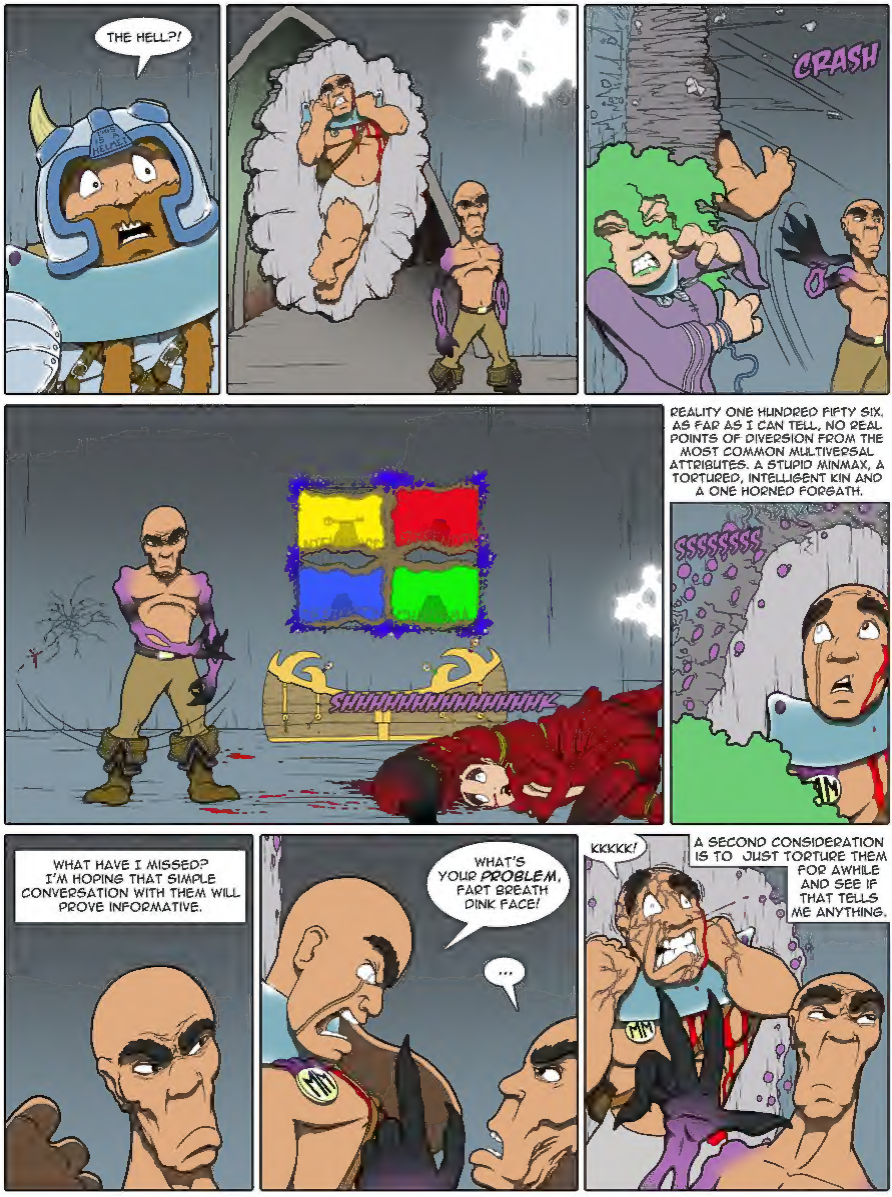
CRUNCH!
HUFF
HUFF
SH-CHING
THWOOMP
DIES?
FATHER IS MINE BITCH. HE DOESN'T NEED YOU.
SH-CHING
WHAT?
DIES!
SH-CHING
HUH?
WHAT? WHAT'S GOING ON? WHERE AM I?


OBLIVION CANNOT BE OBTAINED, CREATED OR SUMMONED THAT WOULD BE A CONTRADICTION
WHAT I AM DOING IS NOT DESTRUCTION DESTROYING REALITY DOES NOT BRING ABOUT OBLIVION, ONLY A DESTROYED REALITY
NO ONE CAN CONCEIVE OF WHAT TRUE OBLIVION IS TO DO SO WOULD CREATE AN IMAG NED REPRESENTATION OF OBLIVION
IF OBLIVION IS SOMETHING TO BE CONCEPTUALIZED, THEN IT IS SOMETHING BY DEFINITION, TRUE OBLIVION MUST BE NOTHING
EVERYTHING CAN BE REDUCED TO MATHEMATICS UNDERSTANDING THE EQUATION GRANTS POWER OVER EVERYTHING. THERE IS NO EQUATION TO EXPLAIN OBLIVION. OBLIVION IS THE ABSENCE OF AN EQUATION.
REMOVING THE EQUATION DOES NOT GRANT OBLIVION, BECAUSE THE EQUATION WAS TO OBTAIN TRUE OBLIVION, THE EQUATION MUST NEVER HAVE EXISTED. THERE ARE TOO MANY VARIABLES THROUGHOUT THE VASTNESS OF THE UNIVERSE TO PROVE THAT THE EQUATION DOESN'T EXIST. BUT HERE IN THIS TINY POCKET DIMENSION, WHERE NOTHING EXISTS EXCEPT THIS DUNGEON CRAWL, IT IS POSSIBLE TO CATALOGUE ALL KEY VARIABLES. HERE, THE EQUATIONS THAT CONTROL THE POWER OF EXISTENCE GEOGRAPHICALLY, CHRONOLOGICALLY AND CONCEPTUALLY ARE SIMPLIFIED
AND NOW THAT I UNDERSTAND THE EQUATION, I CAN AT LAST
PROVE THAT ONE EQUALS ZERO

AND NOW, LET IT NEVER HAVE BEGUN.
REALITY # 180
FORGATH!
MINMAX!
MINMAX, HANG ON!
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
WHAT IS IT?
I DON'T KNOW. SOME KIND OF MAGICAL HOLE JUST OPENED UP!
WE'RE LUCKY NO ONE FELL IN.
YEAH, THAT WOULD'VE BEEN BAD.


REALITY #156: "OUR" REALITY
YOU MEAN YOU'RE PINNED TO THE WALL, TOO?! DAMMIT, MINMAX!
YEAH, LIKE IT'S MY FAULT!
UM... MINMAX, DID YOU JUST HAVE SOME GLOWING HOLES APPEAR NEAR YOU?
NO IDEA. WE'VE GOT THREE OF THEM OVER HERE.
YEAH. TWO OF THEM. WHAT ARE THEY?
SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG. OBLIVION HAS NOT REPLACED EXISTENCE. SOME SORT OF MISCALCULATION.
HMMM. THERE'S AN UNACCOUNTED VARIABLE REGARDING REALITY #156.
I'M GONNA THROW SOMETHING INTO THE HOLE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
OKAY.
HAVE YOU THROWN ANYTHING IN, YET?
NO, NOT YET.
WELL DON'T THROW IN YOUR BOOT. YOU'VE ONLY GOT ONE.
I KNOW, I'M NOT AN IDIOT!
WAIT. MINMAX HAS ALWAYS HAD ONE BOOT, HASN'T HE.
YUP. EVER SINCE WE GOT HIM NEW CLOTHES IN BRASSMOON. WHY?
IT'S STRANGE THAT HE WOULD WEAR ONE BOOT. WAIT. THAT'S NOT RIGHT. MINMAX HAS NEVER WORN ANY BOOTS.
YEAH. HE'S ALWAYS BEEN BAREFOOT. THAT'S WHAT I JUST SAID.
AND PANTSLESS. I REMEMBER THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM WEARING PANTS BEFORE.
KEN
MINMAX! STOP THROWING YOUR CLOTHES INTO THE HOLE!
I HAVEN'T THROWN ANYTHING INTO THE HOLE YET!


YOU'RE THE ONE THROWING CRAZINESS INTO THE HOLE CAUSE YOU'RE CRAZ...
WAIT. YOU'RE...
YOU'RE THROWING... YOURSELF... NO. WAIT. YOU'RE...
YEAH! YEAH, YOU'RE THROWING YOURSELF INTO THE CRAZY HOLE!
HEH. BURN.
THHHHH
THHHUK
MINMAX ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SIX.
DUDE, YOU ARE THE UGLIEST VERSION OF ME THAT I'VE EVER SEEN.
AND I SAW ZOMBIE MINMAX.
RRRRRRRRRRUUUUUUUUUUMMMMMMMMBLE
CRACK
CA-CRACK
CRACK
CA-CRACK
CRACK
CRHHHHHMMMMM
WE NEED TO TALK.


THE HELL?!
CRASH
REALITY ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SIX, AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, NO REAL POINTS OF DIVERSION FROM THE MOST COMMON MULTIVERSAL ATTRIBUTES. A STUPID MINMAX, A TORTURED, INTELLIGENT KIN AND A ONE HORNED FORGATH.
SSSSSSSS
WHAT HAVE I MISSED? I'M HOPING THAT SIMPLE CONVERSATION WITH THEM WILL PROVE INFORMATIVE.
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, FART BREATH DINK FACE!
...
KKKKK!
A SECOND CONSIDERATION IS TO JUST TORTURE THEM FOR AWHILE AND SEE IF THAT TELLS ME ANYTHING.